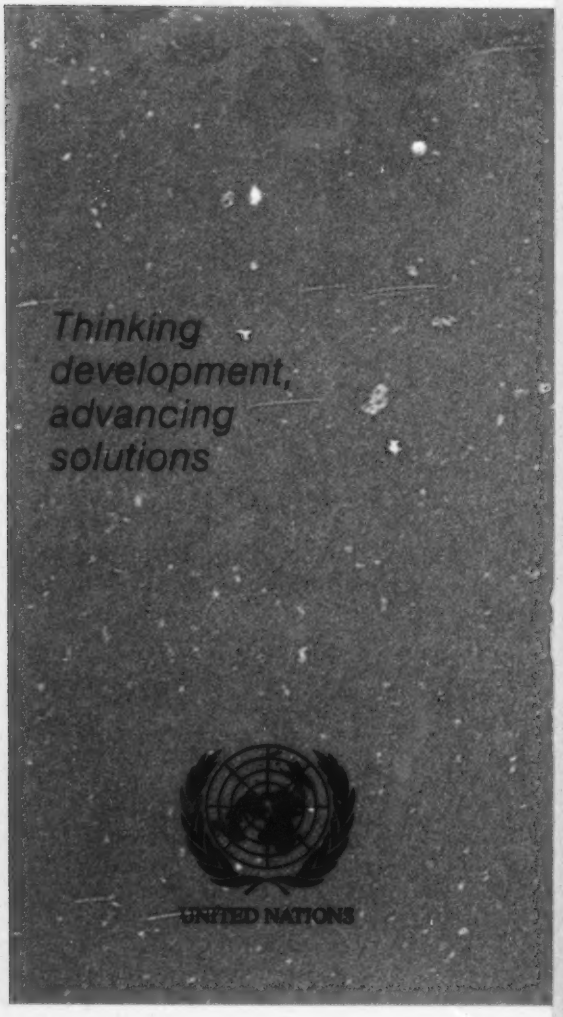
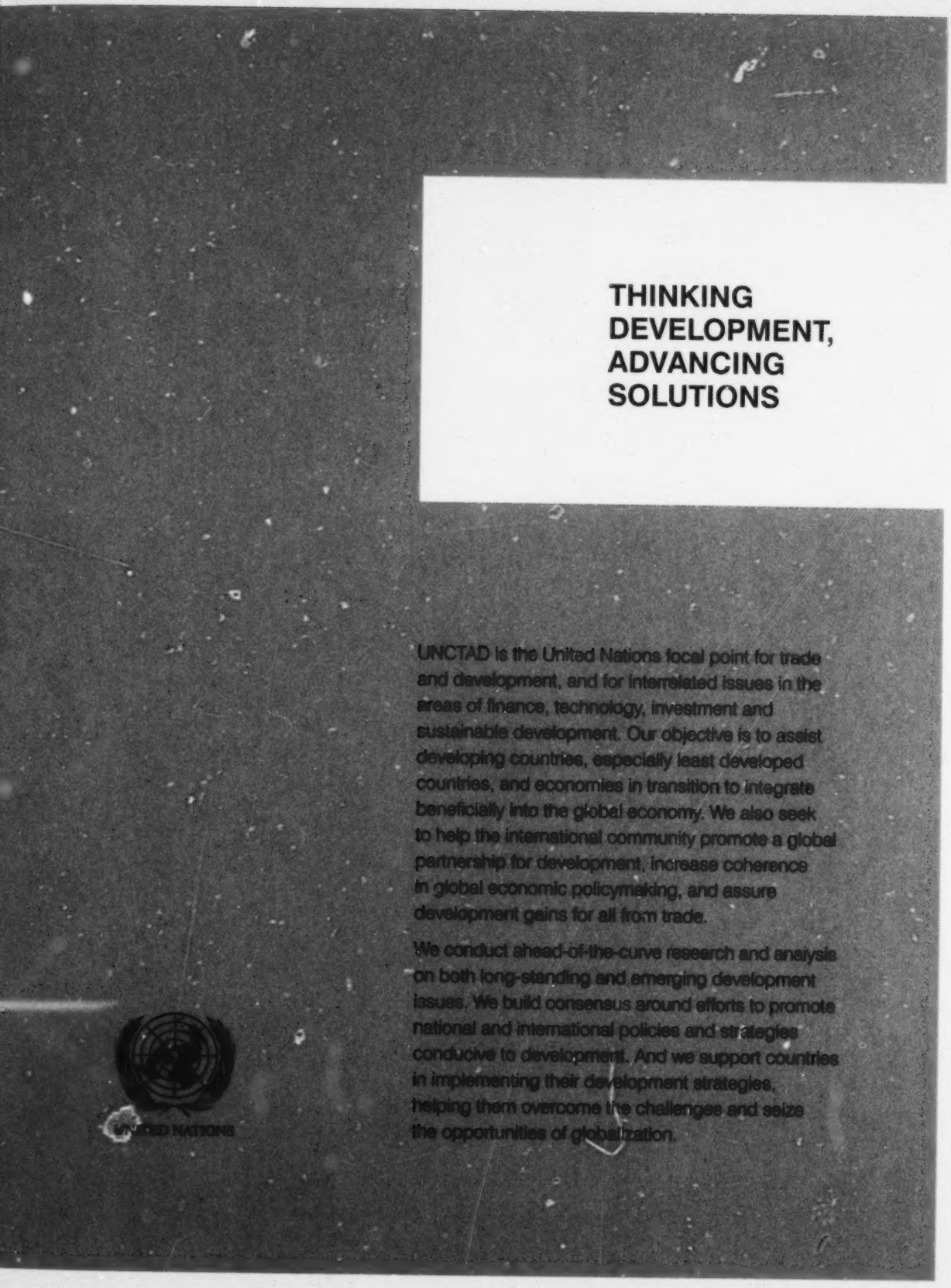
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD ANNUAL REPORT 2007





THINKING DEVELOPMENT, ADVANCING SOLUTIONS

UNCTAD is the United Nations focal point for trade and development, and for interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. Our objective is to assist developing countries, especially least developed countries, and economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the global economy. We also seek to help the international community promote a global partnership for development, increase coherence in global economic policymaking, and assure development gains for all from trade.

We conduct ahead-of-the-curve research and analysis on both long-standing and emerging development issues. We build consensus around efforts to promote national and international policies and strategies conducive to development. And we support countries in implementing their development strategies, helping them overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities of globalization.

UNCTAD AT A GLANCE

1st Geneva-based United Nations organization to initiate a carbon-neutral initiative

3 Pillars of work:
- consensus-building
- research and analysis
- technical cooperation

8 Main programmes of work:
- globalization and development strategies
- investment, technology and enterprise development
- international trade in goods and services and commodities
- services infrastructure and trade efficiency
- Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

43 Years of promoting the development-friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy

46% Female staff

193 Member States

200 Partnerships forged with civil society organizations

310 Technical cooperation projects currently being implemented in 83 countries

466 Dedicated staff members, with professional staff drawn from 99 countries

$40m In voluntary contributions for operational activities, of which $7.7m was contributed by developing countries and countries with economies in transition

$290m Total regular budget for 2007, from the regular budget of the United Nations

To find out more about UNCTAD, visit
www.unctad.org

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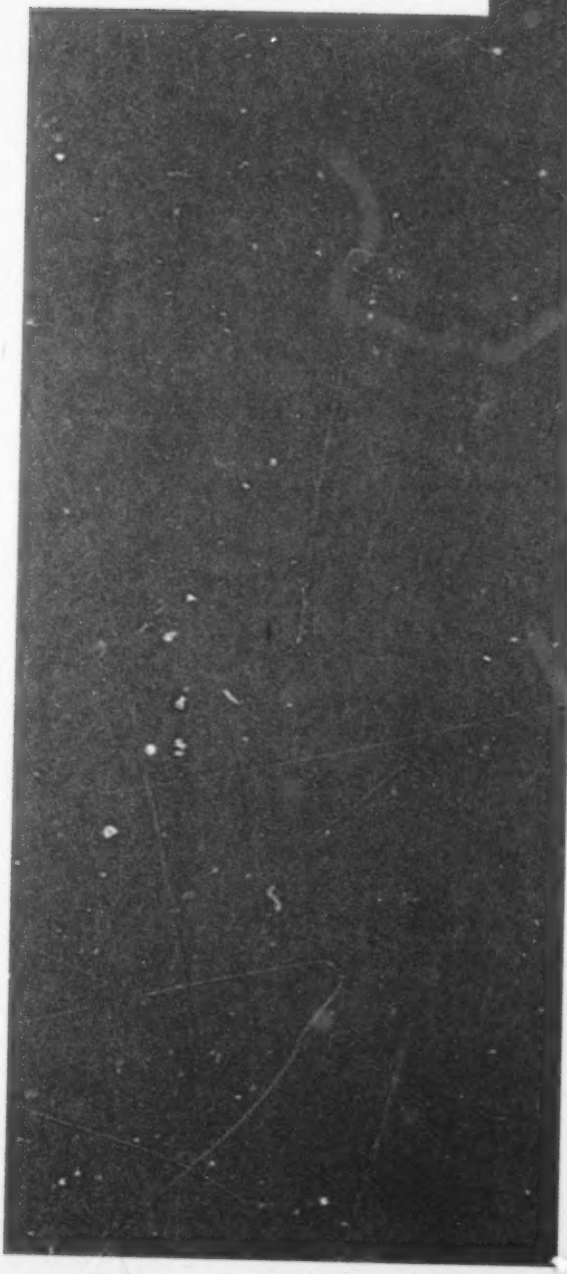
FOREWORD BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD



This last year has been a very busy one for the organization, particularly as the preparations for the twelfth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XII), to be held in Ghana in April 2008, are gearing up in earnest. Member States identified the theme for the conference – Addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development – and I presented my report to UNCTAD XII in July. In October, we sounded the starting bell for the formal intergovernmental preparatory process, with negotiations on the Conference outcome text now in full swing.

The Conference takes place after a period of global economic expansion that has brought unprecedented benefits to a growing number of developing countries, allowing some of them to become major players in the world economy. This emergence of the new South is a welcome reminder of the potential of globalization to contribute to development. However, halfway to the 2015 target date for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, many of the poorest and most disadvantaged countries have not benefited from increased global liberalization and integration. In addition, high energy and food prices, growing concern over the economic impacts of climate change, global financial imbalances

Supachai Panitchpakdi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

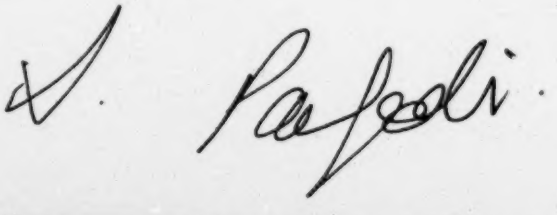
and volatility, and slow progress in the multilateral trade negotiations are generating a number of new challenges for policymakers.

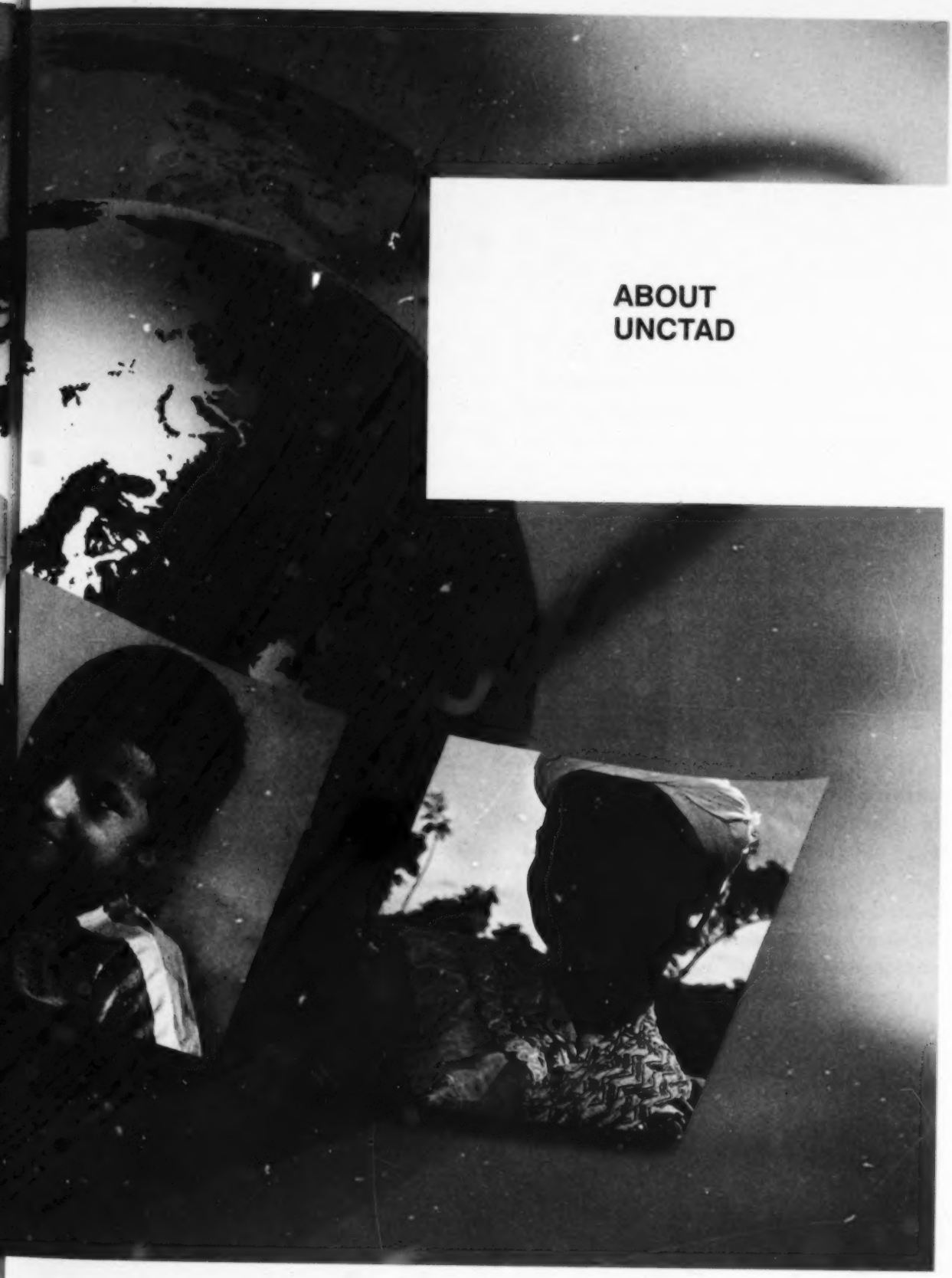
In this complex environment, UNCTAD has continued to analyse global developments so as to advance innovative policy solutions and provide targeted technical assistance to developing countries. In 2007, our research highlighted the great potential of regional cooperation for harnessing South–South trade and identified the policies needed for developing countries to benefit more from investment in the extractive industries. We also worked on finding new ways to strengthen productive capacities in the least developed countries to allow them to enhance the benefits of international trade, by focusing on the role of knowledge and innovation.

Our intergovernmental dialogues examined policies in such areas as trade in services, commodities, investment and competition policy. The value of our intergovernmental work was recognized by the G8 at its summit in Heiligendamm in June; in the summit declaration UNCTAD was invited to work closely with the OECD in helping industrialized and developing countries to identify best practices for creating an institutional environment conducive to increased foreign investment and sustainable development. The General Assembly of the United Nations has also commended UNCTAD for its analytical work on the concept of policy space, as first articulated in 2004 in the UNCTAD XI São Paulo Consensus.

We also took steps to strengthen the coordinated delivery of our technical assistance. In line with United Nations system-wide efforts to "deliver as one", UNCTAD has taken the lead in establishing a United Nations cluster on trade and productive capacities, in which several United Nations agencies will develop joint projects at country level. In addition, we have engaged with member States by presenting a more coherent programmatic plan for UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities, while a newly established in-house project review committee monitors project design and resource mobilization efforts and promotes streamlined administrative procedures.

As we look to 2008, I am convinced that UNCTAD XII will not only make a further contribution to development, but also result in a stronger UNCTAD. By identifying the policies needed, fostering global consensus and catalysing action, we can help extend the benefits of globalization as broadly as possible and equip developing countries to meet its challenges.





ABOUT UNCTAD

Palais des Nations, Geneva

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was established as an organ of the United Nations General Assembly in 1964 to provide developing countries with an institutional framework to address their development concerns and help them boost economic growth through trade. Today's increasingly globalizing and interdependent world presents developing countries, particularly the least developed, and countries with economies in transition with new challenges. At the same time it offers them new opportunities to benefit from the global marketplace, which could be used to reduce poverty and improve living standards for all people in a sustainable manner. We at UNCTAD seek innovative ways and practical means to help them achieve this goal.

Three dimensions to our work

We conduct research and analysis of current trends and issues related to trade and development, offering a fresh look at development challenges and opportunities in the light of evolving global developments. Our aim is to identify policy alternatives and help policymakers find pragmatic policy responses to meet these challenges and to use new emerging opportunities effectively.

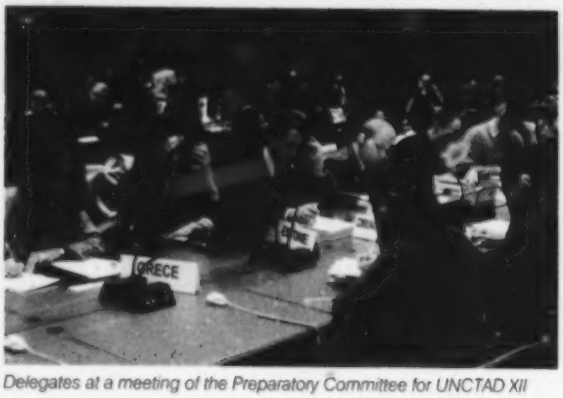
We help countries and the international community to build policy consensus around proactive approaches to global trade, investment and finance for development through our intergovernmental meetings, expert meetings and participation in other international forums.

We offer technical assistance to help developing countries and countries with economies in transition better integrate into the globalizing economy, seize new and expanding opportunities and overcome major obstacles. We are the only United Nations body that deals with development issues in this integrated manner, taking account of the interlinkages and interactions between trade, investment, finance, technology and sustainable development.

Contributing to global development goals

Our activities aim to help achieve the goals set by major global conferences and initiatives, such as the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the Almaty Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries, the Mauritius Strategy for the Sustainable Development of

Fifty-fourth session of the Trade and Development Board



Delegates at a meeting of the Preparatory Committee for UNCTAD XII

Small Island Developing States and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society. In addition, we have been helping developing countries participate proactively in the Doha Round of trade negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO) and in furthering the implementation of the goals contained in the Doha Ministerial Declaration.

Working with our member States

Delegates from our 193 member States participate in the annual meeting of our governing body, the Trade and Development Board, which discusses emerging issues and oversees the work of the organization. Three commissions assist the Board: the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities; the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues; and the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development. These commissions also convene meetings of leading experts to examine and offer technical advice on a range of policy issues under consideration.

As a development-oriented institution, UNCTAD works closely with the Group of 77 (G-77) and China. Established at the same time as UNCTAD, the G-77, now comprising 131 developing countries, collaborates with us to advance the international economic agenda in favour of development. At our intergovernmental meetings, the countries of the G-77, developed countries and countries with economies in transition engage in a constructive dialogue to find solutions to key trade and development issues.

Working with other partners

Over the years, we have increased our partnership activities with international institutions, regional organizations, civil society, academia and the business community to make our work more effective. For example, our Virtual Institute works with a number of universities; we offer training courses in collaboration with the United Nations regional commissions; and we provide assistance to least developed countries (LDCs) through the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to LDCs, jointly with WTO, the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank.

Non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations, such as professional associations, religious groups, trade unions and chambers of commerce, as well as academics, increasingly participate in our meetings as

DID YOU KNOW?

UNCTAD has launched a carbon-neutral initiative in response to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's call to make the United Nations climate-neutral. An in-house audit to determine UNCTAD's carbon footprint has been completed, and a carbon mitigation strategy will now be developed; a carbon offset project will be announced by UNCTAD's Secretary-General at UNCTAD XII.

www.unctad.org/climatechange

Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, and Mr. Joe Baidoe-Ansah, Minister of Trade, Industry and Private Sector Development of Ghana, signing the Host Country Agreement, Accra

observers. In 2007, four additional organizations were granted observer status with UNCTAD and 14 more were accredited to the 2007 Trade and Development Board hearing with civil society.

São Paulo Consensus

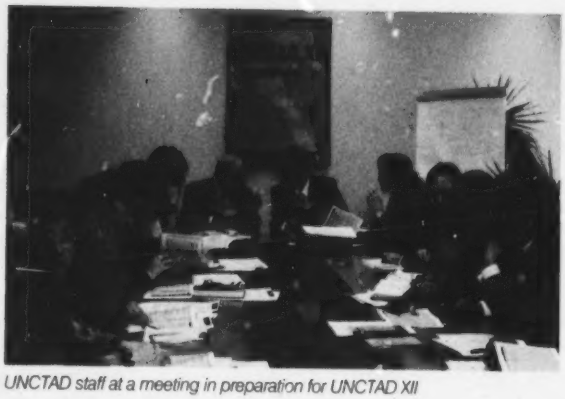
The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is a global conference held every four years in different developing regions of the world to assess current global issues and concerns, discuss policy options at the national and international levels and set the course for the organization's work for the next four years.

The last conference, UNCTAD XI, was held in São Paulo, Brazil, in 2004. Its outcome, the São Paulo Consensus, recognized that it was for "each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space". It identified the need for UNCTAD to respond in a timely manner to the rapid changes in the international economic environment, in particular, the "new geography" of South–South trade and investment flows. It stressed the need for greater coherence between internationally agreed rules, practices and processes on the one hand, and the implementation of national development policies and strategies on the other. It revived the issue of commodities, urging "a pragmatic approach aimed at bringing both focus and priority to breaking the cycle of poverty in which many commodity producers and commodity-dependent countries are now locked". The policy consensus and mandates established at this conference formed the basis of our work from 2004 to 2007.

Preparing for UNCTAD XII

The report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to UNCTAD XII, released in July 2007, highlighted a number of traditional and emerging issues where UNCTAD could have a significant impact thanks to its considerable expertise in these areas. The issues included: the growing importance of South–South trade and investment; the changing reality in the commodity and energy sectors, which has thrown up new opportunities and challenges for economic growth and poverty alleviation; the trade and development implications of climate change; growing competition in the marketplace, which requires constant upgrading of countries' technological capabilities and greater use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to enhance development; emerging barriers to

Special briefing for New York-based delegations on UNCTAD XII, with President J.A. Kufuor of Ghana next to United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro (far left)



UNCTAD staff at a meeting in preparation for UNCTAD XII

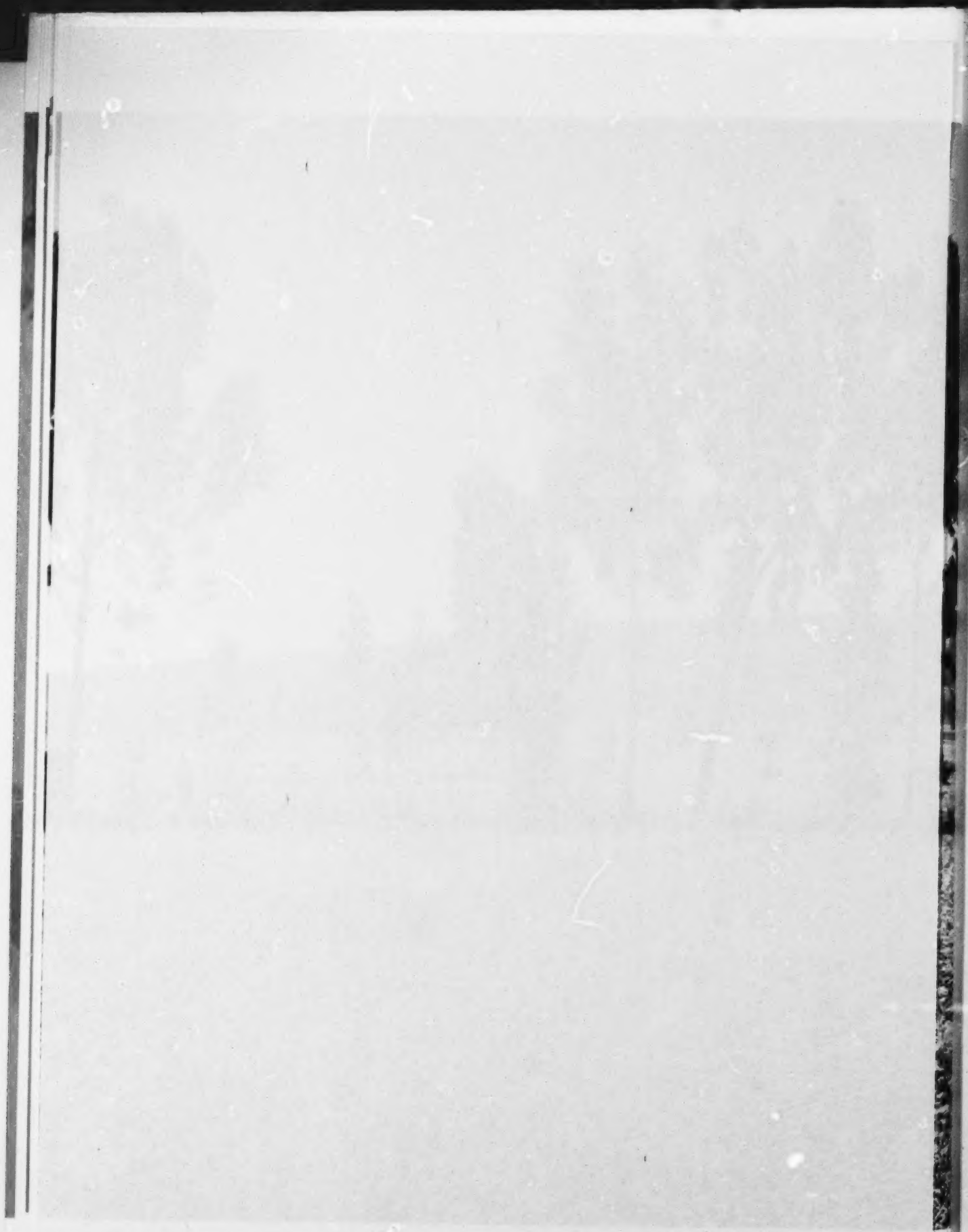
trade and investment, particularly the increasing resort to a variety of non-tariff barriers; and "aid for trade" as an essential complement to international trade liberalization.

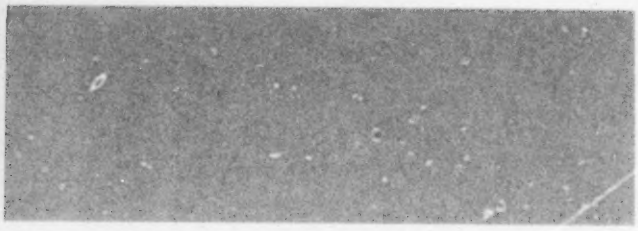
Preparations for UNCTAD XII saw a flurry of activity in 2007. A preparatory committee was established to start formulating an outcome text through a consensus-building process. A series of pre-Conference events included: the "Global initiative on commodities" meeting in Brasilia; a preparatory meeting of experts from LDCs in Arusha; meetings in Geneva on the development implications of tourism and on the use of ICTs for economic development; the India-Africa Hydrocarbons Conference and Exhibition in New Delhi; and a biofuels workshop in Rio de Janeiro.

The theme of UNCTAD XII will be "Addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development". Discussions will focus on four sub-themes: (1) enhancing coherence at all levels for sustainable economic development and poverty reduction in global policymaking, including the contribution of regional approaches; (2) key trade and development issues and the new realities in the geography of the world economy; (3) enhancing the enabling environment at all levels to strengthen productive capacity, trade and investment: mobilizing resources and harnessing knowledge for development; and (4) strengthening UNCTAD: enhancing its development role, impact and institutional effectiveness.

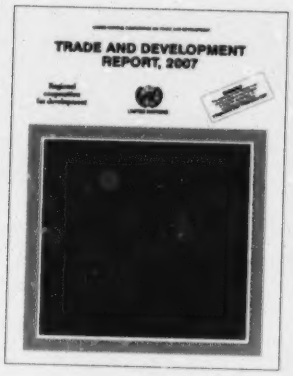
A high-level segment will discuss the theme "Trade and development for Africa's prosperity: action and direction". Another major event in Accra will be the World Investment Forum. It will provide an unprecedented opportunity for senior policy-makers, investors and investment promotion agencies to meet and interact through a series of conference, networking and social events. And because developing countries have much to offer the world in terms of creativity and culture, Creative Africa will showcase African arts, crafts, fashion, music and dance, including an exhibition and performances by leading African artists. The Civil Society Forum will discuss priority issues relevant to the theme and sub-themes and present a position statement to the Conference.

www.unctadxii.org





1 ADDRESSING DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN A GLOBALIZED ECONOMY



"[UNCTAD's] latest annual report provides a valuable developing-country viewpoint, emphasizing aspects of current economic trends that often escape attention in other commentary."

Oxford Analytica, 6 September 2007

Market-driven globalization is a fact of life. It has left no economy, rich or poor, untouched. Global trade and financial integration have reached an unprecedented depth, involving a continuously growing number of economies, goods, services and financial instruments. As a result, the interdependence of national economies has increased to a point where all economies are exposed to the influence of events and policies originating in other parts of the globe. The financial crisis since the summer of 2007 has highlighted this feature of the global marketplace again.

Many of the ideas developed by UNCTAD on globalization, interdependence and the interaction between national and international development strategies found echoes with member States and other stakeholders on the international scene, particularly the ideas related to the shaping and governing of the global economy. It is at the multilateral level, in the interrelated monetary, financial and trading systems, that re-fashioning of the global governance architecture has to begin. But global coherence is not enough: global coherence for development is what is required.

Generating ideas through policy-relevant research

UNCTAD's *Trade and Development Report* and its discussion and technical papers – including research projects for the Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs and Development (G-24) – exemplify the type of research that informs policy at the country level. For instance, issues raised in recent editions of the report formed the basis for training provided to policymakers from developing countries. At the same time, UNCTAD remains a generator of progressive ideas such as the proposed code of good conduct aimed at avoiding a fruitless fight for market share through manipulation of the exchange rate, wage rates, taxes or subsidies.

Trade and Development Report, 2007: Regional Cooperation for Development

The strong global growth momentum built up over the past five years offers developing countries, including many of the poorest, opportunities for sustained growth and progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals, according to the *Trade and Development Report, 2007*. Notwithstanding the overall positive outlook, however, the world economy is overshadowed by serious current-account imbalances and large speculative capital flows that distort exchange rates and perpetuate these imbalances. The report argues for a global arrangement that would exercise the same kind of disciplines as tariffs and export subsidies to ensure a safe correction of such imbalances. It suggests that until such an arrangement can be established, developing countries need flexibility in managing their exchange rates.

The growing number of regional and bilateral trade agreements among developed and developing countries in recent years, or the "new regionalism", may offer greater market access and lead to increased foreign direct investment (FDI). But such agreements can also limit national policy space. In this context, there is an urgent need for multilateral trade negotiations to advance, but with a stronger development dimension built into international trade rules.

Regional integration among developing countries can be an important factor for diversification, industrialization and structural change, and can help ease integration into the global economy. For this, regional cooperation must extend beyond trade liberalization to policy areas that strengthen the potential for growth and structural change, including monetary and financial arrangements, trade logistics, large infrastructure and knowledge-generation projects, and industrial policies.

www.unctad.org/tdr

Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, speaking at the seminar on "Development strategies in a globalizing world", held in Wuhan, China

Participants at the seminar on "Development strategies in a globalizing world"

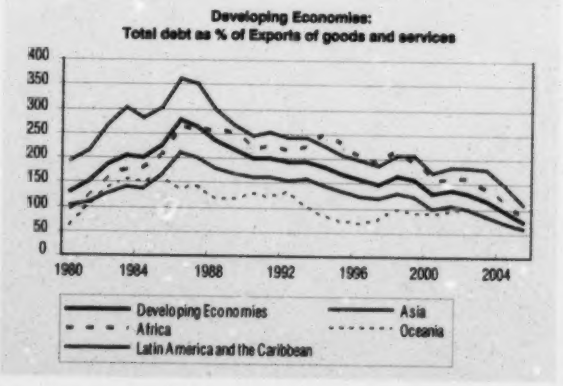
Training for policymakers on issues raised in recent editions of the Trade and Development Report

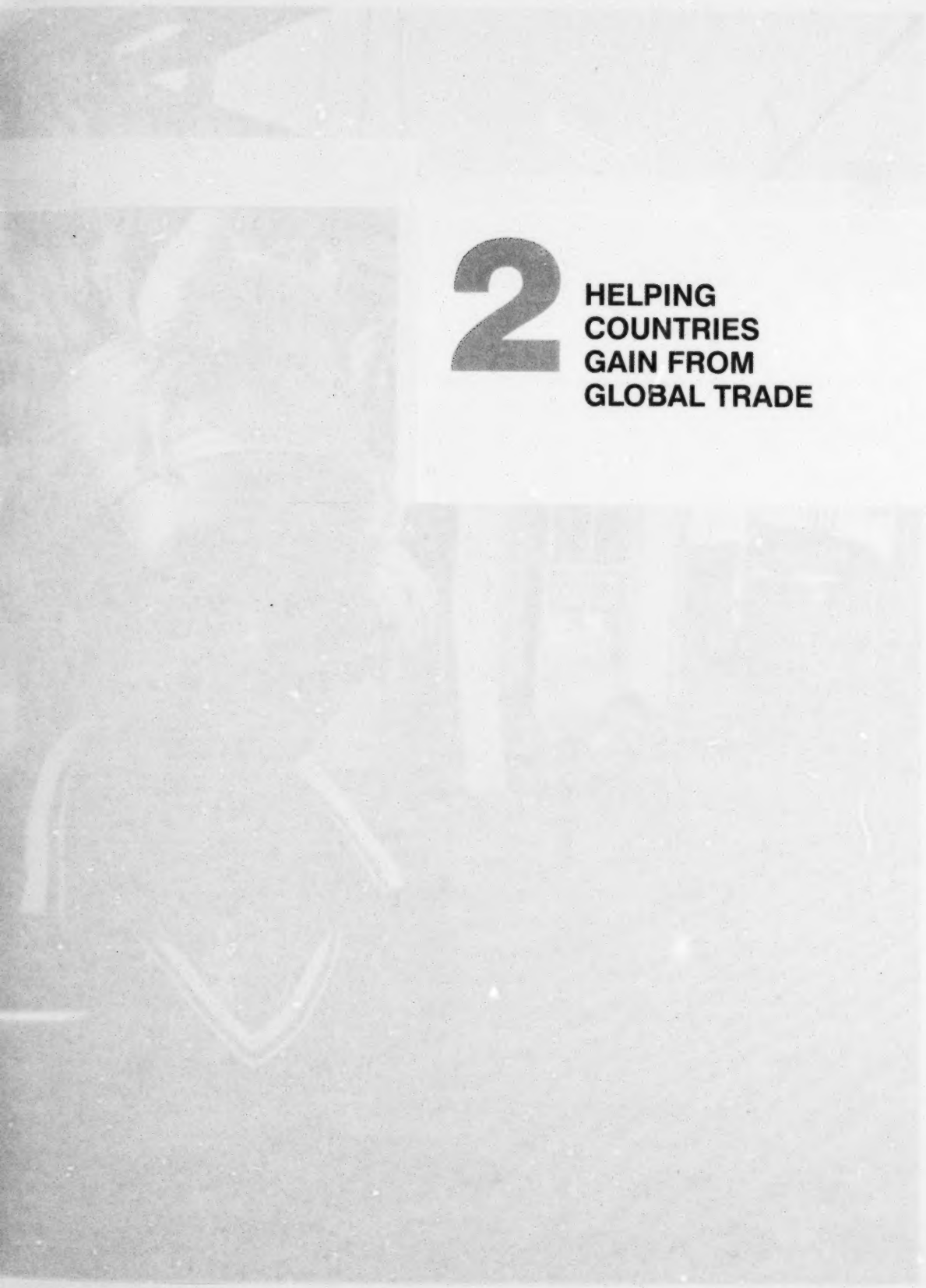
Over 50 senior policymakers from 27 developing countries in Africa, Asia and Oceania attended a two-week high-level training programme in Wuhan, China, on national development strategies in a globalizing world. The seminar contributed to a better understanding of current issues, challenges and opportunities of globalization. It was organized and funded by the Chinese Government.

Addressing the challenges of debt and development finance

UNCTAD's regular research on trends in external debt and on debt sustainability and debt management, as well as on the structure of public debt in developing countries, underpins the debate of the General Assembly of the United Nations on developments in external debt problems of developing countries. The outcome of the General Assembly's deliberations on these subjects builds on the results of research covering the role of new borrowing strategies and new debt instruments, progress in the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative and developments in Paris Club debt-rescheduling, the debt sustainability framework for low- and middle-income countries, potential vulnerabilities arising from the increasingly important role of structured finance, and the role of credit-rating agencies and their effect on the market for developing countries' debt. Similarly, the secretariat provides the Trade and Development Board with an analysis of the burning issues in the world economy, such as the financial turmoil that has affected several developed countries since the summer of 2007. The policy briefs initiated by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD also address this set of issues. They have helped member States to incorporate in their analysis of the world economy the latest critical factors that impact on growth and development.

Developing countries' debt indicators have been steadily improving: total debt as a percentage of exports has continued to decrease.

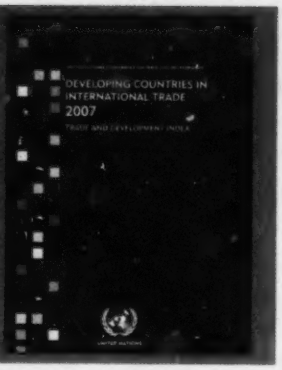




2 HELPING COUNTRIES GAIN FROM GLOBAL TRADE

The UNCTAD publication *Developing Countries in International Trade 2007: Trade and Development Index* will help countries to better monitor and analyse their trade and development performance and to identify economic, trade and social areas where reform is needed if they are to maximize the benefits and minimize the costs of trade liberalization and globalization.

www.unctad.org/mainpublications



In 2006, total world trade amounted to $12.1 trillion. UNCTAD's *Trade and Development Report, 2007* estimated that developing countries' exports more than doubled between 1998 and 2006, representing over one third of global exports of goods and one quarter of exports of services. Strong growth in export revenues stimulated overall growth and enabled developing countries to import more. International trade has thus been a powerful engine of economic growth.

But not all countries have benefited equally. Many need assistance and enabling international conditions if they are to successfully integrate into the global trading system and gain from trade. They need to develop human and institutional capacities to participate more proactively in multilateral, regional and bilateral trade negotiations and implement trade agreements; to develop policies and measures to diversify their economies and build competitive supply systems and trade infrastructure; and to create institutional and market conditions free of anti-competitive practices and other hindrances to fair trade. They also require greater flexibility in multilateral rules and disciplines in international economic and trade relations to allow them to pursue their own national development goals.

Addressing market-entry issues

Market-entry issues are a growing concern for developing countries. The increasing resort to non-tariff barriers, such as safety, health and environmental standards, continues to hurt developing countries' exports. Recent studies by UNCTAD show that technical and related health, safety and environmental requirements account for two thirds to three quarters of all non-tariff barriers, affecting virtually all internationally traded goods.

Guinea, Mozambique, the Solomon Islands, the United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu were assisted in building their institutional capacities to comply with sanitary and phytosanitary requirements and private-sector standards in order to improve their access to lucrative markets.

An Andean regional trade association, the Andean Trade Association for Natural Ingredients, formed with UNCTAD support, will allow businesses to better articulate their interests and take advantage of global markets for biotrade products.

Seeking new opportunities to trade

UNCTAD research has shown that South–South trade, if linked to products for which there is a high demand, can help countries move to higher value-added production, and hence boost overall development and raise living standards. An UNCTAD expert meeting considered how to overcome the obstacles to expanded and effective South–South trade, such as market-access and market-entry conditions, lack of domestic financing, limited domestic resource bases, poor infrastructure development and insufficient linkages between domestic economic sectors.

Another expert meeting focused on how dynamic and new sectors could be promoted in the rapidly increasing trade between developing countries, in order to foster durable and widespread economic expansion and positive development impacts.

East African Organic Conference, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania

A new regional organic standard could improve the livelihoods of thousands of farmers

UNCTAD's technical assistance helped secure a major breakthrough in the adoption of the new East African Organic Products Standard, which should boost organic trade and market access

In recent years, growth in production and exports of certified organic products has been improving the livelihoods of thousands of smallholder farmers in East Africa. Yet Governments in the region have had no specific policies or research and extension services for organic agriculture. In 2005, there were at least five public or private standards for organic agricultural production in the region, which stakeholders saw as a potential technical barrier to regional trade and collaboration. Consequently, a general consensus began to emerge on the need for a common East African organic standard.

Within the framework of the UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity-building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development, and following multi-stakeholder consultations in the three countries of the East African Community (Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania), research was conducted on the current state of the sector in East Africa, organic agriculture and food security, and best practices in organic policies to guide policymakers. The project, funded by the European Commission and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), also facilitated regional dialogue on the issue. As the project progressed, other partners joined to form the East African Organic Team, consisting of all public- and private-sector actors from countries of the East African Community (EAC), as well as those from Rwanda and Burundi, which were negotiating for EAC membership. International partners included the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), ITC and the SIDA Export Promotion of Organic Products from Africa (EPOPA) programme.

An intensive, inclusive and transparent consultation process involving public-private sector dialogue and exchanges at the regional level, along with field-testing and technical comparisons with international organic standards, fed into the work of the working group charged with formulating the text of a regional organic standard. This process played a decisive role in securing agreement on the text among representatives of the national standards bodies, national organic movements and organic certifying bodies of the EAC countries and the East African Business Council who constituted the Working Group. The resulting East African Organic Products Standard was adopted by the East African Council of Ministers in April 2007 and launched, together with the associated East African Organic Mark, by Prime Minister Edward Lowassa of the United Republic of Tanzania at a regional conference in Dar-es-Salaam the following month.

The East African standard is the second regional organic standard in the world, after the European Union's, and the first ever to have been developed through cooperation between organic movements and national standards bodies. It is expected to boost organic trade and market development in the region, raise awareness of the benefits of organic agriculture among farmers and consumers, and create a unified negotiating position to influence international organic standard-setting processes. It should also facilitate benchmarking against standards in developed-country markets, which would help EAC organic farmers gain access to those lucrative export markets.

www.unep-unctad.org/cbtf/

President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya (centre), Mr. Kiraitu Murungi, Minister of Energy (right), and Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD (far right)

Relaunching the commodity agenda

UNCTAD's eleventh Africa Oil and Gas, Trade and Finance Conference and Exhibition, held in Nairobi, Kenya – widely recognized as the most important and largest multi-stakeholder annual event for the energy industry in Africa – brought together key African decision-makers and business executives, investors and non-governmental organizations to discuss such issues as the role of financing of Africa's hydrocarbons sector as a driver of social and economic development, the import and storage of oil and oil products, and regional cooperation in this sector.

An expert meeting on the trade and development implications of financial services and commodity exchanges recommended that UNCTAD keep its work on commodities high on the agenda of UNCTAD XII. The experts reviewed the potential development role of commodity exchanges in national and regional commodity sectors and appraised the regulatory requirements for overseeing the activities of commodity exchanges. They also defined the role commodity exchanges can play in stimulating regional integration and South–South trade, and highlighted policy options to enhance the contribution of financial services to growth and development.

A multi-stakeholder conference in Brasilia, organized jointly with UNDP, the Common Fund for Commodities and the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries, proposed a comprehensive global initiative on commodities. Its recommendations could catalyse efforts to address supply capacity limitations, ensuring the effective participation of commodity producers in value chains, diversifying production and improving the international enabling environment.

Assisting in negotiations on services

Through a project funded by the European Community, UNCTAD helped strengthen the human, regulatory and national capacities of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) secretariat, Member States and the SADC Trade Negotiating Forum, leading to the adoption of the SADC Protocol on Trade in Services. Assistance included six impact studies and hands-on technical assistance in the assessment of approaches and options for services liberalization and regulatory cooperation. The resulting unprecedented liberalization of trade in services provides opportunities for SADC Member States to exploit the development potential of their rapidly growing service economies.

Training course on WTO accession in Sao Tome and Principe

Ms. Mina Mashayekhi, UNCTAD, with Mr. Mohamed Bedjaoui, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria, at the Algerian national workshop on multilateral trade negotiations and WTO accession issues

New opportunities for South–South trade through ICTs

Increasingly, business is being conducted electronically via the Internet. According to UNCTAD's *Information Economy Report 2007/2008*, the past decade has seen strong growth in ICT-related trade flows, particularly in South–South exports. Trade in ICT goods among developing countries amounted to $410 billion in 2004 – close to the $450 billion of North–North ICT trade.

To seize the new opportunities offered through ICTs, countries need an appropriate legislative framework to ensure that an electronic transaction is legally valid, binding and enforceable. Consequently, and as a result of the TrainForTrade programme's training workshops and advisory services, Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic are close to finalizing their legislation on e-commerce, in line with the regionally harmonized e-commerce legal framework of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

In Uruguay, 22 representatives from ministries, the private sector and the secretariat of 11 member States of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) defined a road map for the eventual regional harmonization of an e-commerce legal framework. This follows their participation in a distance-learning training course on the legal aspects of electronic commerce, where they noted how the positive impact of new legislation on e-commerce activities led to increased FDI and ICT-related business opportunities.

WTO accession – a major development challenge

In a number of countries (e.g. Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bhutan, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Sudan and Yemen), national negotiating teams and other stakeholders were assisted in various aspects and phases of the accession process. The aim of the support was to ensure that the terms of WTO accession were commensurate with the country's level of development and its financial, development and trade needs. The support included the preparation of impact studies and accession-related documents (e.g. on market access offers in goods and services), and assistance in conducting training courses.

DID YOU KNOW?

South–South merchandise trade is estimated to have expanded from $580 billion in 1995 to $2.1 trillion in 2006. This resulted in an increase in the South–South share of world merchandise exports to 17 per cent in 2006, up from 11 per cent in 1995.

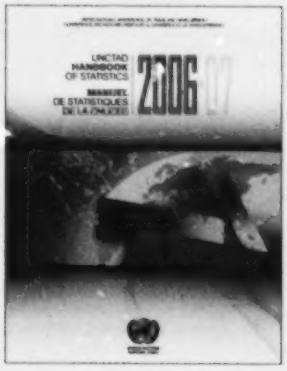
Meeting of the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme (JITAP) in Geneva

Enabling proactive participation in the Doha Round

UNCTAD assists developing countries and countries with economies transition in promoting their commercial and development interests in the Doha Round of trade negotiations. A regional workshop (organized jointly with UNDP) for African countries on the execution of the Doha mandate on special and differential treatment helped African participants identify the key issues from their perspective, and could thus help advance the negotiations on special and differential treatment.

Through the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme (JITAP) to Selected Least Developed and Other African Countries, institutional frameworks for trade negotiations were built and strengthened in eight countries (Botswana, Cameroon, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Senegal and Zambia).

The UNCTAD-India trade and globalization project, supported by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, continued to assist India in its participation in the Doha negotiations and regional trade negotiations. An extensive network of partners has been established to facilitate trade promotion in pro-poor sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and textiles.



Improving data collection and analysis: What's new?

The new UNCTAD Statistical Information System (USIS) has improved the quality and scope of statistics produced and published by UNCTAD. This has contributed to making the new version of the *Handbook of Statistics* more user-friendly, with up-to-date statistics for many indicators that will enhance the quality of research and analysis. *Development and Globalization: Facts and Figures* (an offshoot of the handbook), which is under preparation for UNCTAD XII, will provide delegates with useful analyses and statistics – considered "development benchmarks for globalization" – relating to the theme and sub-themes of the Conference.

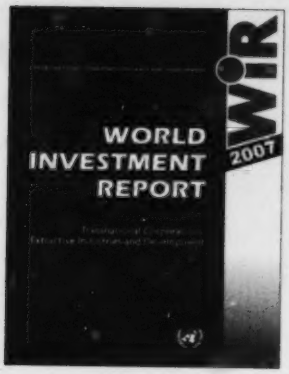
A multi-agency team on non-tariff barriers (comprising UNCTAD, WTO, IMF, World Bank, UNIDO, FAO, OECD and ITC) achieved a significant breakthrough in agreeing common and substantially upgraded definitions and classifications of such barriers. On this basis, work is under way to build a database on non-tariff barriers that will strengthen developing countries' capacities to deal with these barriers.

World Tariff Profiles 2006, a new analytical tool for policymakers and WTO negotiators, contains information on applied and bound customs tariffs for more than 160 countries. It is the first joint publication by UNCTAD, WTO and ITC.

The new South–South Trade Information System contains data on the growing trade among developing countries.

The Trade Analysis and Information System (TRAINS) database expanded its coverage of tariff schedules from 117 countries to 163. TRAINS data also cover indicators that enable countries to calculate market access (such as duty- and quota-free treatment for LDCs) and to monitor the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. About 3,000 new users gained access to the UNCTAD/World Bank World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) in 2007, bringing its annual reach to about 35,000 users.

3 PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT-FRIENDLY INVESTMENT



According to UNCTAD's *World Investment Report 2007*, global foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows surged by 38 per cent in 2006, approaching the peak reached in 2000. Flows to developing countries and the transition economies recorded their highest levels ever. Such investment can help developing countries diversify and upgrade their production structures and their capacities to participate more effectively in international trade to boost economic growth.

World Investment Report 2007: Transnational Corporations, Extractive Industries and Development

The stock of FDI worldwide used by some 780,000 foreign affiliates of about 78,000 transnational corporations (TNCs) has reached $12 trillion. Although TNCs from developed countries remain the leading sources of FDI, those from developing and transition economies are rapidly expanding their activities abroad and contributing to greater South–South flows. In 2006, according to the *World Investment Report 2007*, they accounted for 16 per cent of world FDI outflows.

While Governments continue to adopt measures to facilitate and attract investment, there is also a trend towards imposing new restrictions on foreign ownership, especially in industries of strategic importance. Some Governments are introducing measures to secure a greater share of the revenues from such industries, particularly from extractive industries, which are the focus of this year's report.

These industries largely account for the increase in FDI in many resource-rich developing countries, especially in Africa. Rising demand for oil and gas and minerals and metals, especially from rapidly industrializing countries in Asia, has spurred the investment boom in mineral exploration and extraction.

The report highlights the rise of new TNCs in these industries, with many developing-country firms becoming global players. It suggests that a considerable effort will have to be made to address the economic, environmental, social and political issues relating to mineral extraction if the earnings from those industries are to be harnessed to boost development. The report examines the positive and negative impacts of TNCs in this sector and makes a number of recommendations for Governments, the international community and the private sector to ensure that mineral resource exploitation becomes a force for development.

www.unctad.org/wir

"Every year UNCTAD does this report on global flows, and this is really the best source on the subject."

Hamish McRae, The Independent, 18 October 2007

Attracting foreign direct investment for development in Rwanda

To promote much-needed investment for Rwanda's development, the Government of Rwanda is energetically pursuing UNCTAD's recommendations to improve its skills base and investment climate

Rwanda, a small landlocked country, is one of the world's poorest nations, and faces particular challenges in attracting FDI for development. Ninety per cent of the population lives in rural areas, eking out a living from agriculture. Manufacturing and services are underdeveloped and provide little formal employment. The level of skills and human capital development is low but rising. Given the enormous challenges that affect its ability to attract FDI, the Government requested UNCTAD to conduct an investment policy review (IPR).

UNCTAD's initial fact-finding mission found that the Government had already made enormous strides in restoring peace and stability, improving the investment framework, strengthening its regulatory institutions and fighting corruption. This provided a sound basis for further improvements that could transform the country into a centre of excellence in "soft infrastructure" and governance in the region. It was suggested in the IPR that further reforms would be necessary in such areas as corporate tax, dispute settlement, labour market flexibility, a competition regime and good governance practices in investment promotion.

The IPR proposed setting up a programme to attract skilled foreigners to bridge the skills gap and ensure a transfer of competence so as to transform the country into an industry- and service-based economy and create jobs for its young population. As a follow-up to the presentation of the IPR to the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues and to its endorsement by the Rwandan Government, UNCTAD presented a detailed proposal for a "skills attraction and development programme" at a stakeholder workshop attended by senior government officials and private-sector and trade-union representatives. The workshop participants strongly endorsed the action plan, many aspects of which are already being implemented. UNCTAD will provide further technical assistance in implementing the plan in 2008.

In addition, technical assistance was provided to promote foreign investment in the mining sector – a potentially important sector in the economy – including help with the drafting of a mining code. Such a code is necessary if the country is to attract the right kind of investors – those with the financial resources and technology to assess the country's mining potential and exploit the resources if they discover a deposit. It is also essential if the risks associated with mining are to be well controlled and regulated. UNCTAD will train staff and assist in drafting implementation decrees and taxation on investments in mining.

www.unctad.org/ipr

Signing ceremony, bilateral investment treaty between Belgium and Rwanda (within the framework of the presentation of the investment policy review of Rwanda)

Inauguration of the India-Africa Hydrocarbons Conference and Exhibition, New Delhi, India: (front, from left) Shri Murli Deora, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas of India, Awad El Jazz, Minister of Energy and Mining of the Sudan, and Shri Dinsha J. Patel, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas of India

Helping develop policies and strategies to attract investment

Spanish investors plan to set up a $2 million factory in Peru to produce artichokes and chillies for export to North American and European markets. This is expected to create 200 jobs and indirectly benefit 350 families in the Arequipa region. It follows UNCTAD's assistance to Peru's investment promotion agency, Proinversión, to develop strategies that would target investors interested in agribusiness. Proinversión has asked UNCTAD for assistance in promoting investment in other sectors as well.

Helping develop policies and strategies to gain from investment

A meeting of experts identified a range of best practices and key success factors for business linkage programmes, including a critical mass of supplier and purchaser companies and a strict selection of the SMEs and TNCs to be linked. It recognized that the development of clusters and supply-chain management could improve business links and generate economies of scale. UNCTAD continues to provide research and policy advice to strengthen such linkages to derive development gains from investment.

Promoting South–South investment and foreign expansion of firms

About 60 chief executive officers and 30 policymakers from ten countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) exchanged experiences and discussed the key issues for ASEAN enterprises, including SMEs, in the management of risks and challenges when going regional or international. The regionalization of firms can help strengthen ASEAN integration and build regional productive capacities, while going international enables ASEAN firms to take greater advantage of the benefits offered by globalization, thus helping the region better integrate into the global economy. The high-level policy seminar in Bangkok was jointly organized by UNCTAD, the ASEAN secretariat and the ASEAN Chambers of Commerce and Industry, with the support of the Government of Japan and the Board of Investment of Thailand.

The India-Africa Hydrocarbons Conference and Exhibition in New Delhi, India, provided a unique opportunity for key players in the hydrocarbons sector to forge partnerships in the form of joint ventures for investment and technology transfer, supply of equipment and consultancy services. It was organized jointly by UNCTAD, the Government of India (Ministry

DID YOU KNOW?

The G-8 Summit held in Heiligendamm, Germany, in June 2007 referred to UNCTAD's investment policy reviews along with the OECD Policy Framework for Investment as "valuable mechanisms in defining a shared understanding of healthy investment climates in emerging economies and developing countries". It urged the two organizations to engage developed, developing and emerging countries in the development of best practices to increase foreign investment and boost its contribution to sustainable development, adding that this cooperation should be connected with UNCTAD XII.

Training course on international investment agreements (IIAs) and investor-State disputes for 25 members of the Islamic Development Bank, Amman, Jordan

of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Training negotiators and adjudicators

International investment agreements have been proliferating rapidly and are becoming increasingly complex and diverse, noted experts in a panel discussion on international investment rule-making at the annual session of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues. There is a need to enhance the development dimension of such agreements. This poses a particular challenge to developing countries, which also need to build their capacity to handle this complex task.

Training courses on international investment agreements and investor-State disputes have been creating cadres of competent negotiators and adjudicators throughout the developing world. In 2007, four courses on international investment agreements were organized: for 29 French-speaking African participants in Geneva; for 25 members of the Islamic Development Bank in Amman; for 20 participants from 14 countries in eastern and southern Europe and central Asia in Minsk, Belarus (the first in this region); and for 23 negotiators from 11 countries in Latin America. Seminars and workshops on international investment agreements and dispute settlement also improved national capacities in the Dominican Republic, Morocco and Peru.

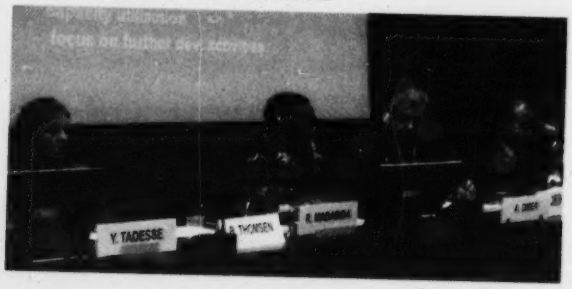
Developing countries will be able to participate more effectively in international investment rule-setting and investor-State dispute settlement with the use of UNCTAD's research series on international investment policies for development and the database on treaty-based investor-State dispute settlement cases.

Advancing dialogues on investment

A multi-stakeholder dialogue, organized in collaboration with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany and the German non-profit organization Capacity Building International (InWEnt), moved forward the debate on strengthening the capacities of developing countries in the pharmaceutical sector through investments, an improved intellectual property rights regime and trade.

A China-India-Brazil-Africa business forum organized jointly by UNCTAD and the Commonwealth Business Council in Cape Town looked into ways of developing partnerships for investment and business opportunities in the economies of the South.

Panel of the multi-stakeholder meeting on investment and the local production of essential medicines, Geneva



Developing the biofuels sector

A number of studies and meetings in 2007 addressed the trade and development dimension of the emerging biofuels market, including an in-depth assessment of the potential for biofuels in Guatemala. UNCTAD and the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development also launched the Fund for African Biofuels Finance and the Clean Development Mechanism to promote investment in Africa's biofuels sector.

Improving capacities for data collection

Member States of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) endorsed a recommendation to form a regional task force to help assess the impact of FDI. It will support policy development and regional integration by creating a harmonized system for measuring, collecting and reporting FDI/TNC statistics in the region on the basis of international standards. The recommendation emerged from a COMESA-UNCTAD FDI/TNC statistics workshop in Lusaka, Zambia – the first capacity-building regional workshop on FDI statistics. A similar national workshop in Morocco decided to create a national team involving all stakeholders to compile data on the country's FDI. This could lead to the eventual creation of a task force for the North African region similar to the proposed COMESA task force.

FDI in tourism: the development dimension

Based on in-depth field research in ten developing countries and a global survey of the world's largest hotel chains, developing countries were given policy advice on how they could derive greater benefits from FDI in tourism and create a virtuous cycle of employment, skills transfer, linkages and poverty reduction. This UNCTAD initiative was supported by the International Development Resource Centre of Canada.

DID YOU KNOW?

Africa Investor magazine awarded UNCTAD first prize in the smart regulation category for its Blue Book on Zambia in 2007

The Blue Book on Best Practices in Investment Promotion and Facilitation for Zambia was launched by Vice-President Rupiah Banda in March 2007. Produced jointly by UNCTAD and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, it contains ten practical and cost-effective measures to help Zambia improve its investment climate in order to attract more FDI and open up opportunities for Zambians. Seven months after its launch, seven of the measures had already been or were being implemented.

www.unctad.org/bluebooks

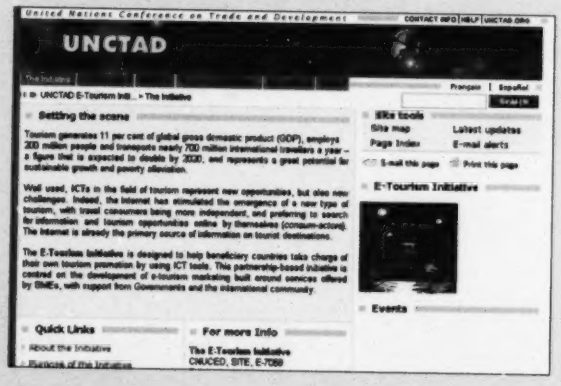
Mr. Rupiah Banda, Vice-President of Zambia

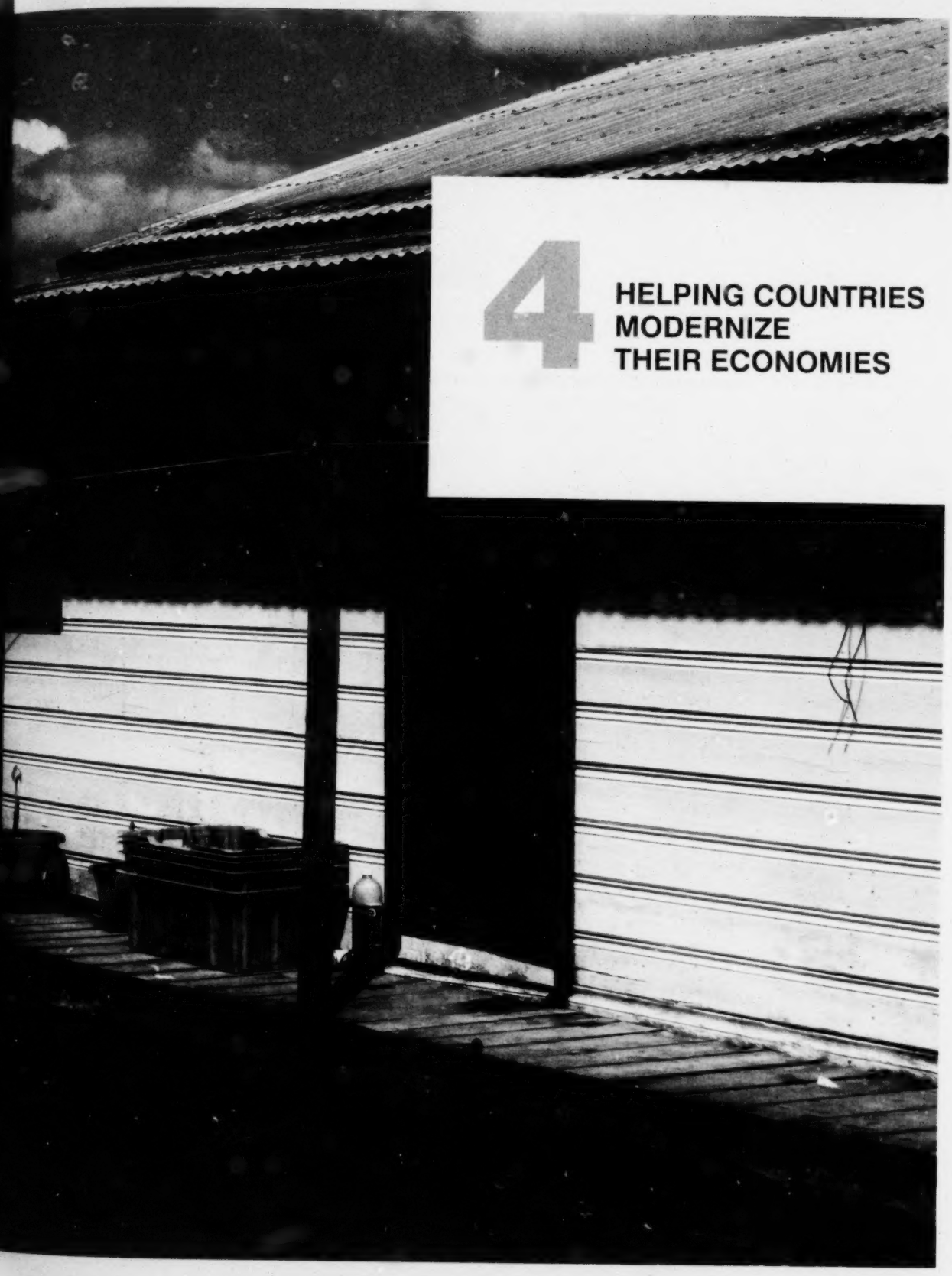
E-tourism – promoting partnerships for SME growth

Tourism is a strategically important sector for developing countries. It has the potential to become a major source of employment, income and foreign exchange and represents an opportunity for sustainable diversification of the economy. In recent years, all the processes associated with tourism have become increasingly digitized. By facilitating access to best practices and market information, ICTs offer tourism businesses, especially SMEs, unprecedented opportunities to increase their competitiveness.

UNCTAD's e-tourism initiative supports an innovative approach to sustainable tourism through the development of participative e-tourism strategies, capacity-building and networking activities. It is based on a strong public-private partnership and is supported by a customized free and open-source system (FOSS), which is an electronic platform that can help local tourist operators target potential markets directly.

UNCTAD's hands-on training seminars in Madagascar and Mali in Africa, and in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia and Sri Lanka in Asia raised awareness of the opportunities offered by ICTs in tourism. Donors appreciated in particular the bringing together of public- and private-sector stakeholders in this industry, which stimulated dialogue and partnerships among the participants.





4 HELPING COUNTRIES MODERNIZE THEIR ECONOMIES

In order to successfully integrate into the increasingly competitive global economy and enhance their ability to trade and speed up their development, developing countries need to improve their infrastructure and productive capacity. They also need to create competitive, modern enterprises through technology transfer and better access to information and communication technologies. A conducive regulatory and institutional environment, a strengthened competition regime and sound accounting and corporate governance practices are also indispensable to their modernization.

Information Economy Report 2007/2008

Science and Technology for Development: the New Paradigm of ICT

Information and communication technology (ICT), as a "general purpose" technology, can have a pervasive impact on an economy by creating new modes of organization of production and consumption and new opportunities for developing countries to integrate into the global economy.

The report discusses the many different and innovative ways in which various kinds of ICTs, such as mobile phones, the Internet and tele-centres, can contribute to raising living standards, providing employment and helping SMEs grow and become competitive. ICTs are also particularly effective channels for the transfer of technology. For example, rural information centres in Bangladesh and the Partnership for e-Prosperity for the Poor in Indonesia provide farmers with access to valuable knowledge to help them combat insects and improve breeding techniques.

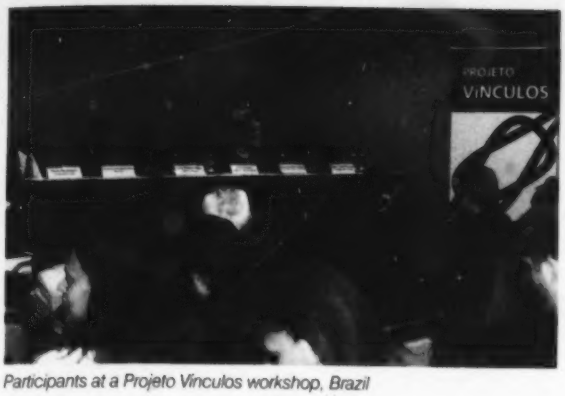
The report describes how Governments can play a crucial role in the development of the ICT sector through policies that support knowledge creation and diffusion, including by establishing a clear legal and regulatory framework for interactions and transactions among the different actors. At the international level, flexible intellectual property rights regimes, open access models and international partnerships are needed to ensure a more effective transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing. Development partners can help close the digital divide through technical assistance and by financing the necessary infrastructure.

www.unctad.org/ier

DID YOU KNOW?

UNCTAD works to improve access to essential information. Reference centres and national enquiry points in Botswana, Cameroon, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique and Zambia were strengthened under JITAP. They were also given access to UNCTAD and United Nations documentation electronically, and to training in the use of newly installed open-source library management software.

www.unctad.org/ier



Participants at a Projeto Vínculos workshop, Brazil

Business linkages are improving prospects for SMEs in Brazil

The business linkages programme, Projeto Vínculos, has had outstanding success in promoting dynamic small and medium-sized enterprises in north-eastern Brazil. Considered the "social force of the economy", SMEs contribute 43 per cent of Brazil's national income, over 20 per cent of its gross domestic product and 64 per cent of the labour force. So far, Projeto Vínculos has helped some 80 SMEs, employing about 2,500 people, to improve their business.

In the free zone of Manaus, SMEs that produce for large enterprises are facing competition not only from other regions of the country but also globally. The electronics sector, a pillar of the region's industrial development, is under growing pressure to cut costs in the supply chain, and environmental standards are becoming increasingly stringent. Obtaining ISO 14001 certification (an environmental management standard) is virtually a necessity for SMEs seeking to supply TNCs, especially if the latter cater to global markets. For example, the adoption by Philips in 2005 of ISO 14001 as a criterion for supplier selection posed a challenge to its suppliers, given their lack of information about the certification process and lack of resources to prepare for it.

Philips and Projeto Vínculos therefore developed a strategy to strengthen business linkages, offering incentives for qualification and organizing networking among SMEs. As a result, six companies obtained ISO 14001 certification. Mr. Mauro Colombarolli, Director of Alfatec, a plastics and packaging manufacturer with 65 employees in Manaus, said: "The project gave us confidence and helped us receive the financial support we needed... The implementation of these practices not only reduced consumption and pollution, but also led to a reorganization of our procedures. We have already saved a lot of money establishing our new facilities in accordance with the norm, and are convinced that the investments will pay off in the long term."

Thanks to this project, Philips has gone further and established supplier teams that regularly organize sustainability workshops for local business partners and involve selected suppliers in the design and quality improvement processes of its products.

Projeto Vínculos is a joint initiative of UNCTAD, Brazil's Ministry of Industry and External Trade, regional governments, GTZ (the German technical cooperation agency), SEBRAE (Brazil's largest SME promotion agency), FDC (a leading Brazilian business school) and Ethos (a Brazilian non-governmental organization).

www.projetovinculos.org

Accelerating development through information and communication technologies

Recognizing that information and communication technologies can promote national competitiveness in international trade and thus promote economic growth, many countries have introduced national ICT master plans. However, without official data on ICT use by enterprises they cannot measure or assess the impact of their ICT policies and strategies.

UNCTAD's new *Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Information Economy* will guide national statistical offices and other producers of official statistics on ICT data collection and analysis, international standards and definitions. The manual will also be used in various training courses and workshops organized by UNCTAD to assist developing countries in collecting accurate and comparable statistics and indicators on ICT.

A major achievement of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development (launched at UNCTAD XI in São Paulo) was the creation of an internationally agreed core list of ICT indicators that was formally endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2007. Several developing countries have already integrated the indicators into existing household and business surveys, which will become a basic reference for the formulation and evaluation of ICT policies for development. UNCTAD cooperates with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations regional commissions, the World Bank and Eurostat in this partnership.

Creating a safer investment climate and better corporate governance

The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR) assists developing countries and economies in transition to implement best practices in accounting and corporate transparency in order to facilitate investment flows and economic development. In 2007 the group discussed ways of meeting the accounting needs of SMEs.

The UNCTAD secretariat's report to ISAR in 2007 entitled "Review of the implementation status of corporate governance disclosures: an inventory of disclosure requirements in 25 emerging markets" provides information on what stock

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTAD
Home
Welcome to COMPAL
The COMPAL programme is a three-year Phase II Technical Assistance Programme on Competition and Consumer Protection Policies for Latin America supported by SECO (Switzerland).
This programme will assist Nicaragua, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Peru and Bolivia.
The UNCTAD-led programme, to be implemented with national coordinators from each beneficiary country, involves the establishment and/or strengthening of capacities in various institutions related to competition
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exchanges and regulators in leading emerging markets require publicly listed enterprises to disclose. This inventory helps emerging market regulators and stock exchange officials to compare their disclosure requirements with those of other emerging markets, as well as with three of the largest capital markets in the world. The study employs a novel international benchmark of disclosure established by UNCTAD in its 2006 publication *Guidance on Good Practices in Corporate Governance Disclosure*.

Country case studies on the practical implementation of international financial reporting standards enable policymakers to share experiences, draw lessons and understand the intricacies of implementing the standards. Lessons from case studies undertaken in 2006 on Brazil, Germany, India and Jamaica were disseminated at workshops in Kiev, Beijing and Kazakhstan. In 2007, case studies were prepared for Pakistan, South Africa and Turkey.

Improving the regulatory climate for businesses

Competition laws and policies are essential for preventing restrictive business practices or market concentration, which impede trade and development. UNCTAD's crucial awareness-raising and technical cooperation activities help countries and regions introduce appropriate competition laws, reform existing laws and build up institutional capacity to apply such laws.

UNCTAD assisted: Malaysia in adopting a competition policy framework as a basis for a new competition law, which speeded up the checking and registration of businesses; Viet Nam in preparing its consumer protection decree and competition law; and Egypt in drafting and adopting a competition law, which cut the minimum capital required to start a business and halved the time and cost of starting a new business. With UNCTAD's help, Bhutan introduced changes to its competition laws and policies, making it easier for entrepreneurs to start limited liability trading companies and enabling an anti-corruption commission to exercise greater control over public procurement. Similarly, Mozambique adopted a competition policy framework and prepared a competition law under an UNCTAD project. A critical mass of professionals with expertise in dealing with anti-competitive practices has been created in Bolivia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Peru through the technical assistance programme on competition and consumer protection policies for Latin America (COMPAL).

Growing trade ties and the challenges of WTO membership require well-trained and informed trade professionals. UNCTAD's Virtual Institute network is helping to meet this growing need, and more and more countries are eager to participate in this successful and innovative experiment. The first universities from countries with economies in transition (Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine) joined the network in 2007.

Participants in the training course on biotechnology held at the Agricultural Genetic Engineering Research Institute in Giza, Egypt, within the framework of the Network of Centres of Excellence

Voluntary peer reviews on competition law and policy for the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) (the first ever review for a regional grouping) and two of its member States, Benin and Senegal, conducted in the context of the work of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, provided recommendations on how their competition policies might be made more effective. UNCTAD is helping WAEMU and its members to strengthen their implementation of a common competition policy.

Promoting science and technology

Close to 100 African scientists, including about 30 women, improved their specialization in fields such as biotechnology and ICTs on seven training courses provided by UNCTAD's Network of Centres of Excellence project, financed by the Government of Italy. World-class scientific institutions located in China, Egypt, India, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania participate in the network at present and more are expected to join, enabling a larger number of students to be trained. By strengthening links and mobility among the scientific community in developing countries, the project promotes South–South cooperation in science and technology to advance development.

Customs brokers at an Asycuda workshop in Torkham, Afghanistan

Modernized customs procedures can boost trade and revenue

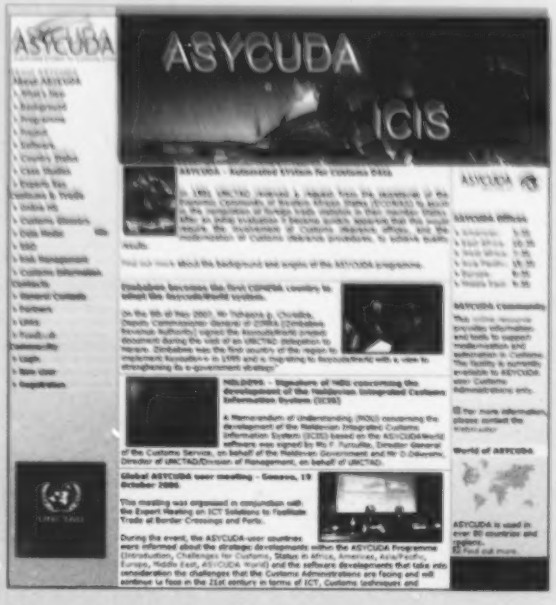
Customs revenue constitutes a significant proportion of government revenue for many developing countries, particularly the least developed. An efficient customs clearance procedure can improve collection of such revenue, and the clearance of goods, whether for export or import or in transit from a landlocked country. This can boost a country's trade, which further increases revenue.

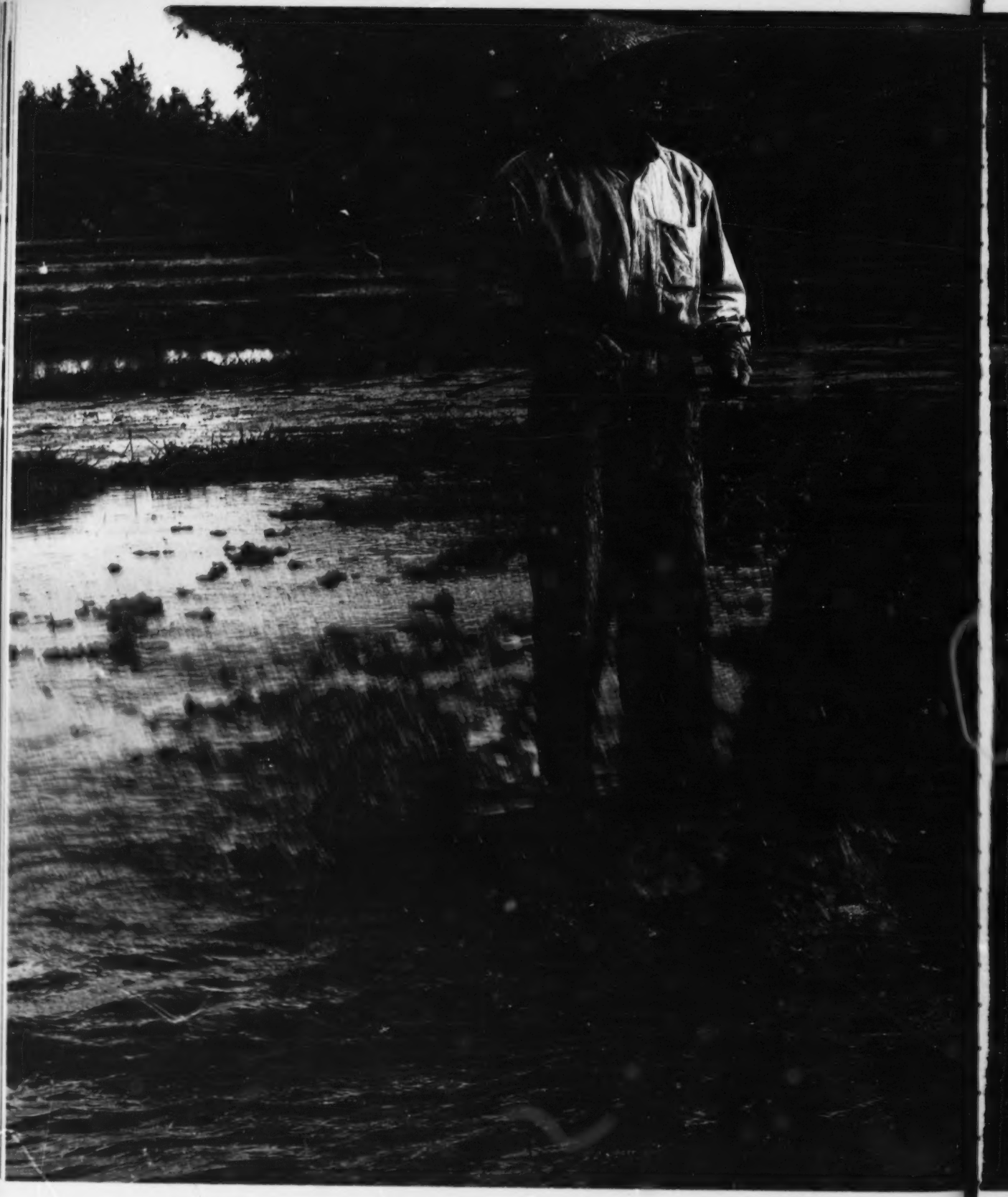
In Afghanistan, the introduction of UNCTAD's Automated System for Customs Data (Asycuda), an electronic data management system covering all customs-related processes, has helped dramatically increase customs revenue: from $86 million in 2003/04 to $311 million in 2006/07.

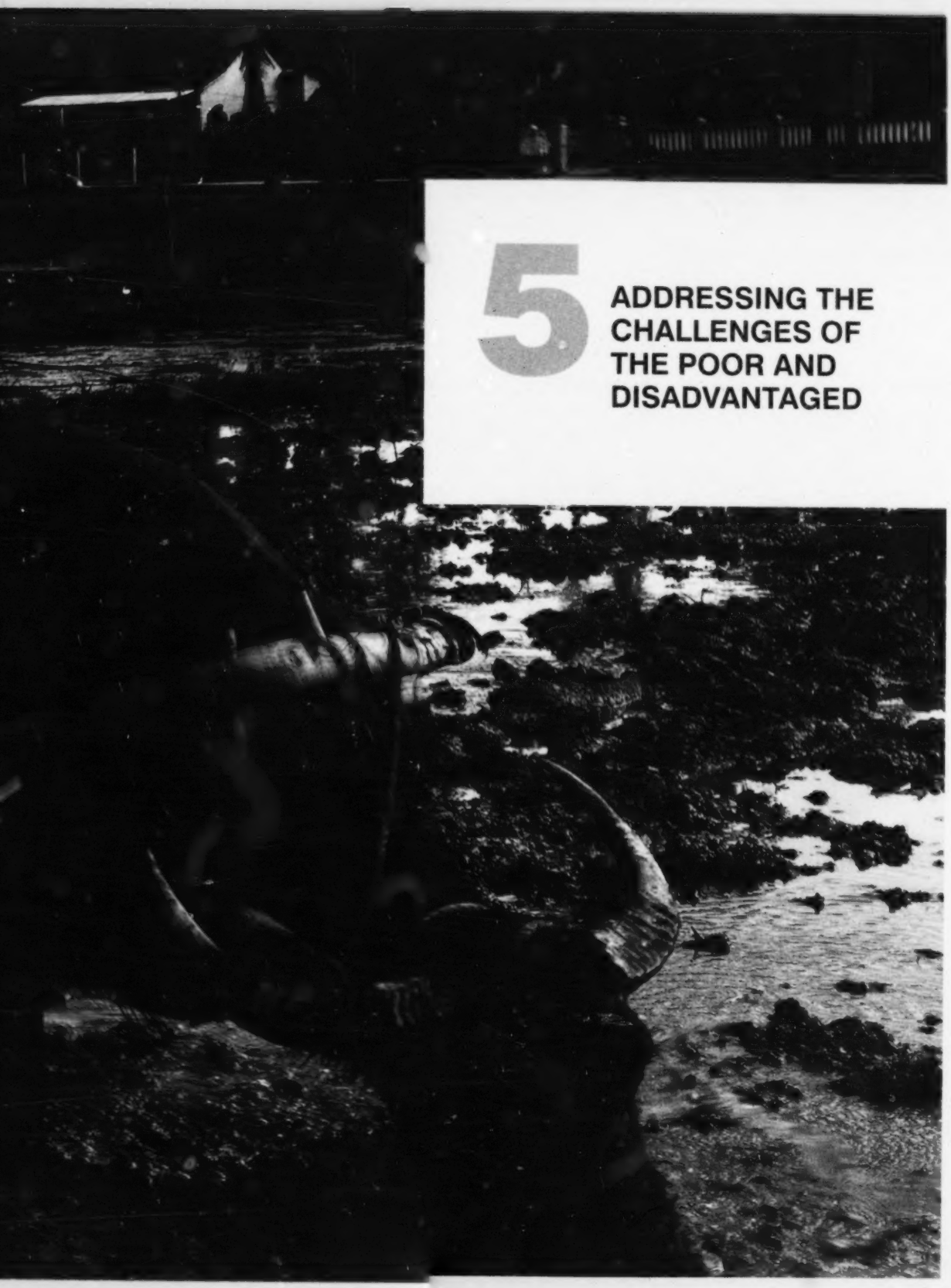
Experts from the Asycuda programme have been working with the Afghan Customs Department to develop a system geared to Afghanistan's customs and trade needs. Practical computer training on the use of Asycuda software was provided for 90 customs brokers and 35 customs officers, and the system is now fully operational at major transit points in the country, including at Kabul Customs House. Available in the local languages of Pashto and Dari, as well as in English, Asycuda++ (the updated version) enables electronic processing of declarations, risk management, transit operations and rapid clearance of goods. It also allows the collecting of accurate, up-to-date statistics that provide valuable input into trade and fiscal policymaking.

This has resulted in fewer and simpler documents and forms, streamlined and transparent customs clearance procedures (reducing the opportunities for corruption) and lower trade costs. The time-saving element is best illustrated by the fact that customs clearance of cars imported from the Islamic Republic of Iran, which used to take one month, now takes only one day. Another important benefit deriving from the system can be found in the fight against drug trafficking. Although customs officials are unable to control the huge flow of heroin from the country (which accounts for 92 per cent of world consumption), now that they have the new system they have been able to improve their surveillance of imports of the chemical products used in the transformation of opium into heroin. This is because the new Asycuda-based system lists the chemicals and their importers, who now require special authorization to import the chemicals.

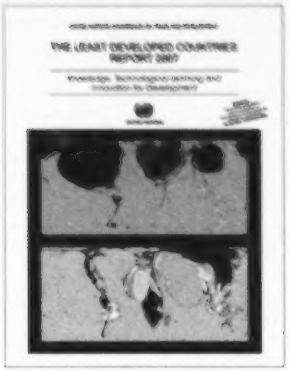
www.asycuda.org







5 ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF THE POOR AND DISADVANTAGED



UNCTAD spearheads international efforts to provide special assistance to the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs). Our experience in measuring economic vulnerability and dealing with the structural problems of LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs has made a valuable contribution to the global advocacy by the United Nations of greater international attention to these countries, in particular to the growing international debate on "aid for trade". Two annual publications, The *Least Developed Countries Report and Economic Development in Africa* (see below), highlight the specific development challenges these countries face and what is needed at the national, regional and multilateral levels to address them.

The Least Developed Countries Report 2007: Knowledge, Technological Learning and Innovation for Development

The *Least Developed Countries Report 2007* is the first systematic study ever of technological learning and innovation in LDCs. It suggests that unless LDCs increase the knowledge content of their economies and diversify through learning and innovation, they risk being further marginalized. Yet the current patterns of technology flows to LDCs through international trade, FDI and licensing are not helping to narrow the global knowledge divide. The report raises awareness of this crucial issue and promotes policy dialogue on it.

The report sets out what national Governments and their development partners could do, focusing on four key policy issues: how science, technology and innovation policies geared towards technological catch-up can be integrated into LDC development and poverty reduction strategies; how stringent intellectual property rights regimes affect technological development processes in LDCs and what policy options are available for improving their learning environment; how the loss of skilled human resources through emigration can be addressed; and how knowledge assistance (as part of official development assistance) can be used by LDCs and their development partners to support learning and innovation in LDCs

www.unctad.org/ldcr

"This Report is particularly important because it focuses on a new area that we usually do not associate with the least developed countries, which is their emerging interest to use science and technology as a vehicle for economic transformation."

Calestous Juma, Director, Science, Technology and Globalization Project, Harvard University, United States of America

"It is a gem amidst a forest of institutional reports. A tad technical, maybe, but the UNCTAD Least Developed Countries Report hits home: if poverty in the 50 least developed countries is to be reduced, 'science, technology and innovation are not a luxury but a necessity', according to the report."

Libération, France, 20 July 2007 (translation)

The island paradox: the case of the Maldives

The tsunami that wrought havoc on the Maldives in 2004 dramatically illustrated the vulnerability of islands, and why the international community needs to rethink its criteria for graduating countries from least developed country status

The case of the Maldives brings into sharp focus an issue of growing international concern that UNCTAD has been echoing for years: the "island paradox".[1] Many small island developing States that appear to be relatively prosperous and to be demonstrating progress are, paradoxically, among the most vulnerable countries in the world. This poses a serious threat to their socio-economic stability.

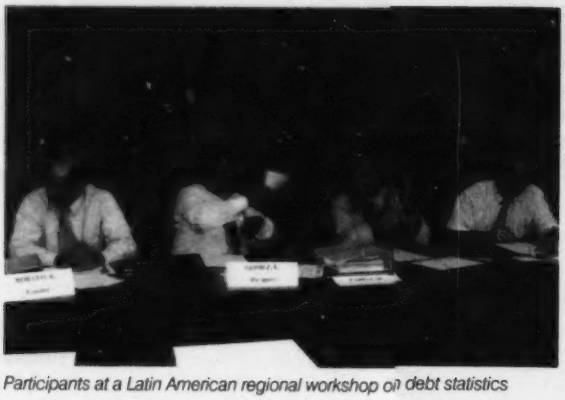
In December 2004, the Maldives was deemed ready to graduate from LDC status. A few days later, the atoll nation was hit by a devastating tsunami that highlighted the need to give greater importance to the vulnerability criterion in the graduation of LDCs.

UNCTAD has long advocated that the graduation rule should be reformed to require evidence of significant progress in alleviating economic vulnerability and building human assets before any country is deemed as qualifying for graduation. In addition to contributing to the ongoing debate on graduation, UNCTAD supports small island developing States in their efforts to overcome the island paradox, by helping these countries strengthen their resilience to external shocks, notably by re-specializing their economies in activities that are less exposed to such shocks.

UNCTAD's vulnerability profile of the Maldives stressed the island's acute proneness to natural disasters, environmental erosion and economic shocks, and highlighted that the country needed more time to build up its resilience to adverse external factors. It also showed that the country's fisheries, its second-largest sector, could suffer a serious blow if premature graduation implied the loss of duty-free access to the European Union's tuna market.

After the tsunami, the United Nations General Assembly agreed to grant the Maldives an exceptional three-year grace period to facilitate reconstruction efforts (2005–2007), before the normal three-year transition period, to allow the country to negotiate a "smooth transition" with its development partners. The Maldives is now due to graduate from LDC status on 1 January 2011.

[1] UNCTAD estimates that small island developing States are 34 per cent economically more vulnerable than other developing countries, largely because of their exposure to natural disasters and trade-related shocks. The Island Paradox (forthcoming) discusses these issues, which have gained increasing significance for the six least developed small island developing States that meet graduation criteria.



Participants at a Latin American regional workshop on debt statistics

Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to LDCs

The enhanced Integrated Framework was based on the growing recognition that, for LDCs to effectively participate in international trade, their productive capacities need to be strengthened, as has been consistently advocated by UNCTAD. Country ownership and trade-mainstreaming, two concepts promoted by UNCTAD, have become key to this assistance process, and should prove more effective in ensuring that trade is given higher priority in LDCs' national development plans.

Under this framework, Angola and the Solomon Islands were helped in formulating their trade development strategies. UNCTAD's diagnostic trade integration studies identified measures to help LDCs (Cambodia, the Comoros and Sudan) overcome internal and external constraints on their integration into the world economy.

Tackling specific problems of landlocked developing countries

UNCTAD has been contributing to the Almaty Programme of Action that emerged from the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries in 2003 by improving understanding of issues specific to these countries and helping them gain greater visibility in the context of multilateral negotiations. UNCTAD's advisory services to the Governments of China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation helped break the deadlock in their negotiation of a transit traffic agreement. It also helped Mongolia formulate a national strategy to develop its capacity to offer land-linking transit services to neighbouring countries.

Supporting the Palestinian people

Palestinian exports have been increasingly isolated from world and Arab markets as a result of Israeli closure policies. Meanwhile, imports surged to 86 per cent of GDP in 2006, up from 75 per cent in 2005, which resulted in a $500 million loss to the economy, according to UNCTAD's annual report on assistance to the Palestinian people. The equivalent of 50 per cent of Palestinian GDP was needed to pay for the trade deficit with Israel in 2006. With a view to reducing Palestinian dependence on Israel, UNCTAD is supporting ongoing efforts to find alternative routes for Palestinian trade through Egypt and Jordan.

UNCTAD, with funding from the European Commission, is supporting the development and growth of the private sector by working with the private sector to establish the Palestinian Shippers Council and with the Palestinian customs authority to implement the third phase of the customs modernization programme (Asycuda III). Furthermore, with support from Norway, UNCTAD is working with the Palestinian Investment Promotion Agency to introduce and operationalize an investment retention strategy.

Helping countries with debt management

Cambodia became the 66th country to benefit from the Debt Management Financial Analysis System (DMFAS) programme's products and services – 56 countries and 82 institutions currently rely on DMFAS for the day-to-day management of their debt. With each new version of DMFAS and the corresponding capacity-building activities, countries are better able to manage their debt portfolios. The latest version of DMFAS software was installed in a further 13 countries and 16 institutions in 2007, and a broad range of capacity-building events were organized within the 42 active technical assistance projects.

CEO round table organized by Empretec in the United Republic of Tanzania

Some of the most topical issues relating to debt and development today were discussed at UNCTAD's sixth Debt Management Conference by some 250 debt managers and practitioners from over 70 countries – beneficiaries and donors alike. They focused on the practical, day-to-day aspects of managing debt, including the use of the new version 6 of DMFAS.

More than 100 capacity-building activities were organized at the national, regional and international levels. For example, staff from national debt management offices in Ecuador, Ethiopia, Honduras, the Philippines, Thailand and Zimbabwe participated in regional study tours lasting three to four weeks, visiting other regional debt management offices, where they benefited from on-the-job training.

Strengthening enterprise development

Under UNCTAD's entrepreneurship development programme (Empretec), a new entrepreneurship centre is being established in the United Republic of Tanzania, with facilities in Dar-es-Salaam and Mwanza. It will offer a wide range of training and business development and linkage services, including for women entrepreneurs. At a round table in that country for chief executive officers, 35 entrepreneurs welcomed UNCTAD's programme on "intrapreneurship" for public and private enterprises as responding to the training needs of their own initiative on enhancing public service leadership.

Support for commodity producers

The Sustainable Commodity Initiative was developed jointly with the International Institute for Sustainable Development, the International Institute for Environment and Development, AidEnvironment and other bodies to promote consideration of social and environmental sustainability issues in international commodity policy. The initiative initially focused on coffee, and included the provision of technical assistance, financing for smallholders and assessing the costs and benefits to small producers of sustainability labels and standards. Activities were then extended to a number of other commodities. For example, UNCTAD recently hosted a multi-stakeholder dialogue on social and environmental issues in the world's banana industry, organized jointly with civil society and industry groups.

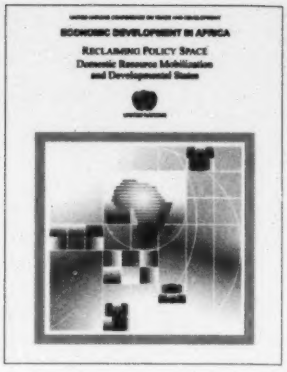
A biotrade programme in Uganda, in cooperation with the Uganda Export Promotion Board and with funding from the Governments of the Netherlands and Norway, is helping promote trade and investment in biodiversity-based products and services. The sustainable commercialization of products with potential for high local value added will contribute to improving livelihoods and to poverty reduction.

Under JITAP, the Government of Mali was assisted in carrying out competitiveness studies on Malian livestock in the West African region as a pilot project in the preparation of a manual on commodity-based export diversification and competitiveness. The studies will provide guidance on how to assess and build competitiveness of a commodity through national policy measures and regional cooperation, in order to maximize development gains from trade in agro-food.

Training and capacity-building

With the assistance of the UNCTAD Virtual Institute on Trade and Development, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania developed graduate masters programmes in international trade to meet their growing need for trade specialists. In addition, 29 graduate students from the University of Dar-es-Salaam learned about production and trade in international commodities through workshops and presentations.

Twenty managers from the Autonomous Port Authority of Cotonou, Benin, gained the skills necessary to become quickly operational in their new functions at the port through UNCTAD's Port Training Programme.

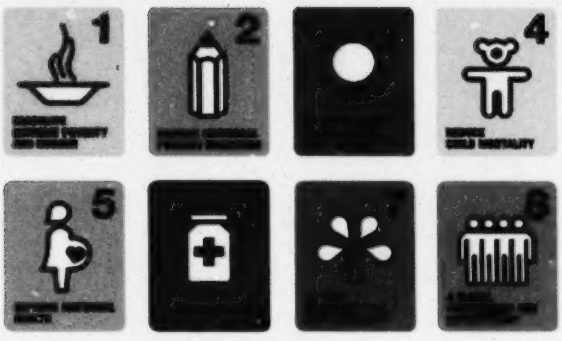


Economic Development in Africa 2007: Reclaiming Policy Space – Domestic Resource Mobilization and Developmental States

This report argues that greater use of domestic financial resources and more productive investments will enable African Governments to define development programmes that reflect their countries' genuine priorities. It suggests that African countries should emulate those Asian economies – the so-called "developmental States" – that experienced phenomenal economic growth by actively managing economic policy to encourage economic diversification and upgrading. Such a strategy differs from the recent policy prescriptions for African countries that favour reduced government participation to allow market forces to drive growth.

The report identifies potential "hidden" African domestic financial resources that could be mobilized for development. Public finance reforms, improved tax collection, formalizing the large informal sector, making more productive use of remittances from Africans working abroad, arresting capital flight and putting in place appropriate measures to repatriate resources held abroad are some of the means by which the current shortfall in financial resources for development can be reduced. The strategic allocation of investment to sectors with the strongest linkages with the rest of the economy could create more jobs and generate growth that benefits larger proportions of the population. The report concludes that consensus is now building around the idea that African countries need better, rather than less, State involvement, and that they need sufficient policy space to be able to develop their own institutions to address development challenges.

www.unctad.org/africa/series



Working towards the Millennium Development Goals

Enhancing access to essential services, particularly for the poor and marginalized, can help alleviate poverty – a major element of the Millennium Development Goals. Through services assessments, research and policy dialogue, UNCTAD assists developing countries in designing appropriate policies for achieving universal access to essential services.

A comprehensive review and sharing of national experiences at an expert meeting on universal access to essential services, such as education, health and water services, identified opportunities and challenges associated with different policies. It resulted in policy recommendations that offer national regulators and policymakers much-needed guidance on different options and instruments in this area. It also examined how to harness the liberalization of trade in services to improve universal access to essential services.

International trade and investment rules can potentially constrain Governments' ability to put in place measures to enhance access to essential services, such as water, particularly for the poor and marginalized. UNCTAD responded to a request from the Government of Bolivia for assistance in addressing this challenge. It organized a meeting that brought together key stakeholders (including civil society, the private sector, intergovernmental organizations, regulators and trade negotiators) to share experiences and discuss policy options, and that resulted in a number of recommendations. Some of these related to international trade negotiations and are feeding into Bolivia's policies and negotiating position with respect to the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

UNCTAD is working with Ethiopia to assess its health and education sectors, using a multi-stakeholder approach to encourage a participatory process in trade policymaking. The assessment will help Ethiopia identify policy options and establish regulatory and institutional frameworks in its efforts to achieve universal access targets in these sectors.

Universal access to financial services, including for the poor and marginalized, is key to alleviating poverty. An UNCTAD expert meeting on financial services gave experts the chance to learn from the experience of Grameen Bank, whose success in microcredit and microfinance is being replicated in numerous countries. The meeting also highlighted the growing potential for developing countries' exports of financial services in the niche areas of Islamic banking, microfinance and outsourcing.

6 ANNEXES

Annex A. UNCTAD publications in 2007

Title	Document symbol	Issue date
Macroeconomics and development policies		
G-24 Discussion Paper No.43: Beyond the IMF	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/1	15 February
G-24 Discussion Paper No. 47: IMF Contingency Financing for Middle-Income Countries with Access to Private Capital Markets: An Assessment of the Proposal to Create a Reserve Augmentation Line.	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/5	1 March
G-24 Discussion Paper No. 44: East Asia's Counterweight Strategy: Asian Financial Cooperation and Evolving International Monetary Order	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/2	15 March
UNCTAD Discussion Paper No. 183: Rethinking Industrial Policy	UNCTAD/OSG/DP/2007/2	1 April
G-24 Discussion Paper No.45: The Potential Impact of the "Aid for Trade" Initiative	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/3	30 June
UNCTAD Discussion Paper No.185: The Concept of Odious Debt in Public International Law	UNCTAD/OSG/DP/2007/4	30 July
UNCTAD Discussion Paper No. 184: National Innovation System and Macroeconomic Policies: Brazil and India in Comparative Perspective	UNCTAD/OSG/DP/2007/3	1 September
Trade and Development Report 2007	UNCTAD/TDR/2007	5 September
G-24 Discussion Paper No. 46: Regional Arrangements to Support Growth and Macro-Policy Coordination in MERCOSUR	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/4	10 November
G-24 Discussion Paper No. 48: Aid for Trade: Cool Aid or Kool-Aid?	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/6	26 December
G-24 Discussion Paper No.49: IMF Voting Reform: Need, Opportunity and Options	UNCTAD/GDS/MDPB/G24/2007/7	26 December
Global and Regional Approaches to Trade and Finance	UNCTAD/GDS/2007/1	31 December
Coping with Globalized Finance: Recent Challenges and Long-Term Perspectives	UNCTAD/GDS/2007/2	31 December
Statistics		
UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics (hard copy, CD-ROM) and its online version	TD/STAT.31	1 July
Assistance to the Palestinian people		
Integrated Simulation Framework for Palestinian Macroeconomic, Trade and Labour Policy	UNCTAD/GDS/APP/2006/2	26 January
Debt management		
Proceedings of the Interregional Debt Management Conference 2005	UNCTAD/GDS/DMFAS/2007/1	5 November
Development of Africa		
Economic Development in Africa – Reclaiming Policy Space: Domestic Resource Mobilization and Developmental States	UNCTAD/ALDC/AFRICA/2007/1	26 September

International investment trends, issues and analysis		
Asian Foreign Direct Investment in Africa: Towards a New Era of Cooperation Among Developing Counties	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/2007/1	1 February
Foreign Direct Investment Surged Again in 2006	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/MISC/2007/2	1 February
Transnational Corporations Journal, vol.15, No. 3	UNCTAD/ITE/IIT/2006/3	1 April
Rising FDI into China: the Facts Behind the Numbers	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/MISC/2007	1 April
The Universe of the Largest Transnational Corporations	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/2007/2	1 October
World Investment Report 2007 (hard copy, CD-ROM)	UNCTAD/WIR/2007	16 October
World Investment Report 2007, Overview	UNCTAD/WIR/2007 (Overview)	16 October
Stability, Skilled Labour and Infrastructure Top Location Factors for Foreign Affiliates	UNCTAD/WEB/ITE/IIA/2007/4	1 November
World Investment Prospects Survey 2007–2009	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/2007/4	1 November
Worldwide Survey of Foreign Affiliates	UNCTAD/WEB/ITE/IIA/2007/5	5 November
FDI in Tourism: the Development Dimension	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/2007/5	1 December
International investment agreements		
Bilateral Investment Treaties in 1995–2006: Trends in Investment Rule Making	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/2006/5	1 February
Intellectual Property Provisions in International Investment Agreements	UNCTAD/WEB/ITE/IIA/2007/1	1 May
Development Implications of International Investment Agreements	UNCTAD/WEB/ITE/IIA/2007/2	1 September
Investor–State Dispute Settlement and Impact on Investment Rulemaking	UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/2007/3	1 December
Recent Developments in International Investment Agreements	UNCTAD/WEB/ITE/IIA/2007/6	1 December
Investment policy reviews		
Investment Policy Review – Morocco	UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/2006/16	29 January
Investment Policy Review – Zambia	UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/2006/14	1 February
Report on the Investment Policy Review of Uganda	UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/2006/15	1 February
Blue Book on Best Practices in Investment Promotion and Facilitation – Zambia	UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/Misc/2006/3	23 March
Investment promotion and retention		
Aftercare: a Core Function in Investment Promotion	UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/2007/1	1 October
International accounting and reporting issues		
Review of International Accounting and Reporting Issues: 2006 Review	UNCTAD/ITE/TEB/2007/2	1 June
Enterprise development		
Global Players from Emerging Markets: Strengthening Enterprise Competitiveness through Outward Investment	UNCTAD/ITE/TEB/2006/9	1 September
Creating Business Linkages: a Policy Perspective	UNCTAD/ITE/TEB/2007/7	1 December

Science and technology for development		
World Information Society Report 2007: Beyond WSIS	UNCTAD/ITU/WISR2007	1 May
The Role of Intellectual Property Rights in Technology Transfer in the Context of the Convention on Biological Diversity	http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/tk/egftk/03/other/egftk-03-oth-technolody-en.pdf	1 September
Trade negotiations and commercial diplomacy		
Trade in Textiles and Clothing: Assuring Development Gains in Rapidly Changing Environment	UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2006/9	1 August
Is the Concept of Sustainable Tourism Sustainable? Developing the Sustainable Tourism Benchmarking Tool	UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2006/5	1 November
Trade and Development Aspects of Insurance Service and Regulatory Frameworks	UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2007/4	1 December
Trade analysis		
Series on Trade, Poverty and Related Cross-Cutting Development Issues – Challenging Conventional Wisdom: Development Implications of Trade in Services Liberalization	UNCTAD/DITC/TAB/POV/2006/1	1 January
IBSA: an Emerging Trinity in the New Geography of International Trade	UNCTAD/ITCD/TAB/36	1 April
Developing Countries in International Trade 2007 – Trade and Development Index	UNCTAD/DITC/TAB/2007/2	6 November
Generalized System of Preferences (GSP): Handbook on the Scheme of Turkey	UNCTAD/ITCD/TSB/Misc.74	1 December
Trade, environment and development		
Series D: Trade, Environment and Development – Analytical Studies: Overview of the Current State of Organic Agriculture in Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania and the Opportunities for Regional Harmonization	UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2005/16	15 February
Bienes y Servicios Ambientales en América Central, Cuba y la República Dominicana: Contexto internacional y experiencias nacionales	UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2005/13	15 February
Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture: Volume 3 – Background papers of the International Task Force on Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture	UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2007/1	1 March
Requisitos Ambientales, Competitividad Internacional y Acceso a Mercados en América Central, Cuba y la República Dominicana Contexto internacional y experiencias nacionales, con referencia especial a los productos agrícolas	UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2006/1	1 May
Opportunities and Challenges of Biofuels for the Agricultural Sector	UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2007/5	21 December
Commodities		
Safety and Quality of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, a Training Manual for Trainers	UNCTAD/DITC/COM/2006/16	1 February

Commodities and Development	TD/B/COM.1/82	7 February
Leveraging Offshore Financing to Expand African Non-Traditional Exports: The Case of the Horticultural Sector (new case studies)	UNCTAD/DITC/COM/2006/13	1 April
The Iron Ore Market 2006-2008	DITC/COM/2007/5	11 June
The Development Role of Commodity Exchanges	TD/B/COM.1/EM.33/2	23 June
Peru Country Case Study: The Challenge of Mineral Wealth – Using Resource Endowments to Foster Sustainable Development	http://www.icmm.com/publications/1701RECCSPeruFINAL.pdf	1 July
Chile Country Case Study: The Challenge of Mineral Wealth – Using Resource Endowments to Foster Sustainable Development	http://www.icmm.com/publications/1701RECCSChileFINAL.pdf	1 July
Iron Ore Statistics	UNCTAD/DITC/COM/2007/11	1 September
Report of the expert meeting on the trade and development implications of financial services and commodity exchanges	TD/B/COM.1/EM.33/4	15 November
Competition law and policy		
Implementing Competition–Related Provisions in Regional Trade Agreements	UNCTAD/DITC/CLP/2006/4	1 March
Handbook on Competition Legislation	TD/B/COM.2/CLP/55	2 March
Criteria for Evaluation the Effectiveness of Competition Authorities	TD/B/COM.2/CLP/59	26 April
Ways in Which Possible International Agreements on Competition May Apply to Developing Countries	TD/B/COM.2/CLP/46/Rev.3	7 May
Transport and trade facilitation		
Maritime Security: ISPS Implementation, Costs and Related Financing	UNCTAD/SDTE/TLB/2007/1	14 March
Review of Maritime Transport 2007	UNCTAD/RMT/2007	7 December
Globalization of Port Logistics: Opportunities and Challenges for Developing Countries	TD(XII)/BP/3	10 December
Asycuda World Report	UNCTAD/SDTE/TLB/2007/2	28 December
Least developed countries		
Transport Infrastructure for Transit Trade of the Landlocked Countries in West and Central Africa: an Overview	UNCTAD/LDC/2007/1	12 April
Improving Transit Transport in East Africa: Challenges and Opportunities	UNCTAD/LDC/2007/2	16 April
The Least Developed Countries Report 2007: Knowledge, Technological Learning and Innovation for Development	UNCTAD/LDC/2007	19 July
Erosion of Trade Preferences in the Post-Hong Kong Framework: from "Trade is Better Than Aid" to "Aid for Trade"	UNCTAD/LDC/2005/6	1 December
General		
UNCTAD Annual Report 2006	UNCTAD/DOM/2007/1	18 April
Report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to the Conference at its twelfth session	TD/413	3 July

Annex B. UNCTAD intergovernmental meetings in 2007

Item	Dates
Trade and Development Board	
Forty-first executive session (commission reports), Geneva	18–20 April
Forty-second executive session (Africa), Geneva	27 June
Fifty-fourth regular session, Geneva	1–11 October
Meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the twelfth session of the Conference	15 October 29 October 26 November 28 November 29–30 November 10–14 December 17–19 December
Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, and its expert meetings	
Eleventh annual session, Geneva	19–23 March
Expert meeting on trade and development implications of commodity exchanges	3 September
Expert meeting on trade and development implications of financial services	20–21 September
Expert meeting on participation of developing countries in new and dynamic sectors of world trade: the south–south dimension	16–17 October
Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development, and its expert meetings	
Eleventh annual session, Geneva	19–23 February
Expert meeting on regional cooperation in transit transport – solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries	27–28 September
Expert meeting on increasing the participation of developing countries' SMEs into global value chains	18–19 October
Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, and its expert meetings and subsidiary bodies	
Eleventh annual session, Geneva	8–14 March
Expert meeting on development implications of international investment rule making	28–29 June
Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, eighth session, Geneva	17–19 July
Expert meeting on comparing best practices for creating an environment conducive to maximizing development benefits, economic growth and investment	24–25 September
Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, twenty-fourth session, Geneva	30 October–1 November
Commission on Science and Technology for Development (Economic and Social Council subsidiary body)	
Tenth session, Geneva	21–25 May
Working party on the medium-term plan and programme budget	
Forty-eighth session (programme budget), Geneva	29–31 January
Forty-eighth session (resumed), Geneva	9–11 July
Forty-ninth session (technical cooperation), Geneva	10–14 September

Other meetings	
Expert group meeting on financial resource mobilization in Africa	16 February
Expert meeting on FDI, technology and competitiveness	8–9 March
Ad hoc expert group meeting on "Expert review of the Least Developed Countries Report 2007: Policies for Technological Learning and Innovation in the LDCs"	10 March
Ad hoc expert group meeting on the development interface between the multilateral trading system and regional trade agreements	15–16 March
Meeting on UNCTAD–ISAR guidance on corporate responsibility indicators in annual reports	15–16 March
Second meeting of the multi-agency support team (MAST) on non-tariff barriers	5 April
Ad hoc expert meeting related to the World Investment Report 2007	22–23 May
Second action line facilitation meeting C7 on "E-business and E-employment" Theme: "ICTs, Global Supply Chains and Development"	24 May
Meeting on "water and free trade"	8 June
Thematic meeting on transit transport infrastructure development, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	18–20 June
Ad hoc expert group meeting on biofuels: trade and development implications of present and emerging technologies	19 June
Ad hoc expert group meeting on development implications of international investment rule making	28–29 June
The information society: new perspectives for post-WSIS scenarios	5 July
Ad hoc expert meeting on FDI in infrastructure (in Relation to the World Investment Report 2008)	24–25 September
Expert group meeting on regional cooperation for development	3 October
Environmental requirements and market access: turning challenges into opportunities	3 October
Panel of experts on policy space, domestic resource mobilization and developmental states in Africa	5 October
Meeting on financial reporting and transparency in the extractive industries	29 October–1 November
Ad hoc expert meeting on "managing structural transformation in the least developed countries"	8–9 November
Multi-stakeholder meeting on "mobilizing resources and harnessing knowledge for development: investment and the local production of essential medicines"	15 November
Governance in the area of finance and debt: UNCTAD debt management conference	19–20 November
Meeting on trade and development implications of international tourism for developing countries: UNCTAD XII pre-event	19–20 November
DMFAS advisory group meeting 2007	22–23 November
Fifth advisory group meeting on strategic guidance for the strengthening of training capacities and human resources development	26 November
Science, technology, innovation and ICTs for development: UNCTAD XII pre-event	6 December
Ad Hoc expert group meeting on globalization of port logistics: opportunities and challenges for developing countries: UNCTAD XII Pre-event	12 December
Ad hoc expert meeting on the development implications of South–South investment: developing country TNC investment strategies and the impact on home and host countries	17–18 December

Annex C. UNCTAD workshops and seminars in 2007

Title	Location	Dates
Debt and capacity-building for debt sustainability		
DMFAS 5.3 training and installation	Bujumbura, Burundi	8–26 January
Technical training on DMFAS and data replication	Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	14–27 January
Training workshop on DMFAS 5.3	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	5–9 February
Advance training in DMFAS reports at the Banque d'Algerie	Algiers, Algeria	11–14 February
Workshop on debt statistics	Tegucigalpa, Honduras	12–22 February
Statistics workshop and project implementation follow-up	Kinshasa, Congo	7–15 March
Workshop on advanced training in DMFAS 5.3	Chisinau, Moldova	13–23 March
Technical training data conversion	Bucharest, Romania	9–12 April
Training for trainers on DMFAS 5.3	Geneva, Switzerland	16 April–4 May
LAC debt group meeting	San Jose, Costa Rica	19–20 April
Seminar on debt statistics	Panama City, Panama	21–28 April
Training workshop DMFAS V5.3	Managua, Nicaragua	30 April –9 May
DMFAS 5.3 IT and DMFAS user training for Chad	Geneva, Switzerland	10–25 May
Technical training on DMFAS 5.3	Jakarta, Indonesia	22–25 May
Upgrade of the DMFAS System to version 5.3 in Indonesia	Jakarta, Indonesia	22 –31 May
Training on DMFAS 5.3 for Ministry of Finance	Jakarta, Indonesia	27 May–4 June
Training on DMFAS 5.3	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	4 June–24 August
Debt data validation workshop	Amman, Jordan	30 June–1 July
Training DSM +	Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo	3–14 July
Installation DMFAS 5.3 and training	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	10 July–10 August
Regional workshop on DSM+ for Latin America for 5 countries	Buenos Aires, Argentina	6–10 August
Training workshop on DMFAS 5.3	Cairo, Egypt	12 August–6 September
Regional workshop on domestic debt and DMFAS 5.3 for Eastern and Southern Africa	Harare, Zimbabwe	20–31 August
Training workshop on DMFAS 5.3	Lusaka, Zambia	10–26 September
Advanced DSM+ training at the OGEDEP	Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo	14–21 September
Training workshop on statistics and DMFAS	Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	19 September–5 October
Training on DMFAS 5.3	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	26 September–5 October
Training workshop on DMFAS 5.3	Dhaka, Bangladesh	30 September–11 October
Advanced training on DMFAS 5.3	Tbilisi, Georgia	4–10 October
Training on DMFAS 5.3	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	8–12 October
Basic training in debt sustainability analysis	Bucharest, Romania	8–12 October
Refresher training on DMFAS	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	10–12 October

Training on DMFAS 5.3 Ministry of Finances	Bujumbura, Burundi	15–26 October
DMFAS technical workshop Viedma, Argentina	Viedma, Argentina	29 October–9 November
Training in the DMFAS system 5.3 to the MINECOFIN and the National Bank of Rwanda	Kigali, Rwanda	4 November–15 December
Regional workshop Oracle training	Douala, Cameroon	19–30 November
Regional Workshop on Debt Reorganization for 7 Central African Countries	Libreville, Gabon	3–7 December
Assistance to the Palestinian people		
Workshop on investment retention and policy for Palestinian Authority officials and private sector participants	Ramallah, occupied Palestinian territory	1 October
Training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda		
Regional training course on key issues on the international economic agenda	Bangkok, Thailand	17–23 January
Training course on key issues on the international economic agenda for African countries I	Cairo, Egypt	4–22 February
Short courses on key international economic issues for Geneva-based diplomats	Geneva, Switzerland	15 February-15 December
Training course on key issues on the international economic agenda for Latin American and Caribbean States	Lima, Peru	18 June–6 July
Training course on key issues on the international economic agenda for African countries II	Dakar, Senegal	22 October–9 November
Development of Africa		
Regional workshop on productive capacities, economic growth and poverty reduction in African LDCs	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	22–23 February
Regional seminar on domestic financial resource mobilization in Africa	Cotonou, Benin	25–27 July
Second regional seminar on domestic financial resource mobilization in Africa	Reduit, Mauritius	28–30 November
Integrated framework		
Pacific region sensitization workshop on enhanced integrated framework	Port Vila, Vanuatu	8–9 November
Investment issues analysis		
Regional Seminar on the WIR 2007	Santiago, Chile	27–28 March
FDI trends at the global level and in China	Guangdong, China	7 April
Regional seminar on the WIR 2007	Randburg, South Africa	16–17 April
Transnational corporations and Canada–China FDI and development	Ottawa, Canada	2–3 August
Sanjaya Lall memorial conference on India–Africa Cooperation in industry, trade and investment	Delhi, India	9–13 September
High-level conference on international investment and the World Investment Report 2007	Shanghai, China	18 October
World Investment Report 2007: Transnational Corporations, Extractive Industries and Development	New York, United States of America	2 November

Investment policies and investment promotion		
Debating pharmaceutical IPRs: A joint UNCTAD–Stockholm Network event	Geneva, Switzerland	20 February
Workshop on investor aftercare and policy advocacy by IPAs	Geneva, Switzerland	9 March
Workshop on implementation of the one-stop investment centre	Abuja, Nigeria	21–22 March
Training workshop on investment promotion for Indonesian diplomats	Washington, D.C., United States of America	3–5 April
Training workshop for Moroccan diplomats	Rabat, Morocco	30 May–1 June
Regional training workshop for Central America and the Caribbean on investor aftercare	San Salvador, El Salvador	22–23 August
Study tour to JETRO for officials of IPAs, particularly from LDCs and island countries of Asia and Pacific on investment promotion, with a focus on the tourism industry	Tokyo, Japan	11–20 September
Training workshop on FDI trends and policy options in LDCs	Geneva, Switzerland	25 September
Regional training workshop for Africa on Investor aftercare	Port Louis, Mauritius	3–5 October
Training session on customer service excellence for the staff of the foreign investment services bureau	Male, Maldives	19 October
Training of local trainers in the delivery to Rwandan public institutions	Kigali, Rwanda	19 November
FDI in tourism: the East and Southern Africa	Nairobi, Kenya	3 December
Training workshop for Angolan trade representatives on investment promotion	Geneva, Switzerland	3–5 December
International investment agreements		
Session de formation à la négociation d'accords internationaux d'investissement pour les pays d'Afrique francophone	Geneva, Switzerland	24 January–3 February
Workshop on the BIT model for Egypt	Cairo, Egypt	18–20 February
workshop on the assessment of the Syrian national and international frameworks on investment and ISDS	Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic	17–22 March
Regional workshop: the impact of recent investor–state disputes on the negotiation of bilateral investment treaties (BITs) and FTAs/RTAs in the APEC region	Manila, Philippines	13–14 April
National seminar and specialized workshop on investor–state dispute settlement	Lima, Peru	22–24 May
Training course on IIAs and investment disputes for Eastern and Southern Europe and Central Asia	Minsk, Belarus	16–25 July
Advanced seminar on international investment agreements for Indonesian officials: interactive session on recent developments in international investment rulemaking	Geneva, Switzerland	27–28 September
Regional training course on IIAs and investment disputes for member countries of the Islamic Development Bank	Amman, Jordan	22–31 October

ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI) workshop on the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA): presentations on key issues in IIAs	Bali, Indonesia	13–14 November
Regional training course on managing investment disputes for Latin America	Montevideo, Uruguay	21–30 November
Training workshop on investment promotion for Angolan trade representatives	Geneva, Switzerland	3–7 December
Intellectual property rights		
Workshop on developing local productive and supply capacity in the pharmaceutical sector – the role of intellectual property rights	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	19–23 March
Defining the public interest in intellectual property – a joint UNCTAD/Stockholm Network/PIIPA event	Geneva, Switzerland	22 June
Trade negotiations and commercial diplomacy		
Workshop on trade negotiations and WTO accession issues	Algiers, Algeria	30 January –1 February
National workshop on trade in services in Mauritius	Port Luis, Mauritius	16–17 February
Ad hoc expert group meeting on the development interface between the multilateral trading system and regional trade agreements	Geneva, Switzerland	15–16 March
Eighth SADC–TNF services meeting in Antananarivo	Antananarivo, Madagascar	27–28 March
WTO accession regional workshop	Yverdon, Switzerland	1–2 April
JITAP open doors week	Kampala, Uganda	23–26 April
Introductory course on the multilateral trading system and accession to the WTO for Syrian officials	Geneva, Switzerland	23–27 April
Workshop on settlement of investment disputes	Jakarta, Indonesia	26 April
JITAP open doors event	Dakar, Senegal	22–25 May
JITAP evaluation workshop	Dakar, Senegal	22–25 May
Workshop on "WTO agreements and EU requirements on SPS, TBT and environment: challenges and opportunities for Thailand's agri-business"	Bangkok, Thailand	24–25 May
Workshop on "the linkages between services and investment disciplines in international agreements"	Berne, Switzerland	31 May
High-level seminar on water and free trade	Geneva, Switzerland	8 June
JITAP open doors events	Libreville, Gabon	11–12 June
JITAP national retreats of the IICs in Zambia	Lusaka, Zambia	14–15 June
National seminar on WTO accession	Sao Tome, Sao Tome and Principe	18–22 June
Joint UNCTAD/WTO informal information session on private standards	Geneva, Switzerland	25 June
Ninth SADC TNF services meeting and consultation with government officials	Johannesburg, South Africa	28 June
JITAP open doors event	Nouakchott, Mauritania	10–11 September
COMESA meeting of trade and legal experts to consider the regional framework for trade in services	Lusaka, Zambia	3–5 October
Meeting of ACP legal experts	Brussels, Belgium	9–10 October

Seminar on "domestic support: accession of Bosnia to the WTO", jointly organized by the Ministries of Commerce and of Agriculture	Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina	9–11 October
JITAP open doors event	Tunis, Tunisia	23–25 October
Training workshop for preferential trade agreement rules of origin	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	29–30 October
Workshop on special and differential treatment	Nairobi, Kenya	30 October–1 November
Workshop for developing countries in preparation for the Seventh WTO Ministerial Conference	Geneva, Switzerland	31 October
Training on WTO accession for Iraqi officials	Amman, Jordan	18–22 November
Workshop on the Russian Federation's accession to and effective participation in the WTO with special reference to energy and environmental goods and services	Moscow, Russian Federation	21–23 November
Multi-stakeholder consultation on UNCTAD XII, organized by UNCTAD and the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines	Manila, Philippines	3–4 December
Steering committee and SADC–trade negotiating forum on trade in services	Johannesburg, South Africa	4–5 December
Workshop on WTO accession	Tehran, Iran (Islamic Republic of)	16 December
Trade analysis		
Training on WITS/TRAINS	Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania	9–11 July
Trade, environment and development		
BTFP regional workshop: UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative – BTFP – Andean BioTrade Programme	Quito, Equator	26 February–1 March
Good agriculture practices in Eastern and Southern Africa: Practices and Policies	Nairobi, Kenya	6–9 March
Private sector engagement in biodiversity-related conventions	Geneva, Switzerland	11 May
East African organic conference, unleashing the potential of organic agriculture	Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania	28 May–1 June
BTFP national value chain analysis workshop for the natural ingredients sector in Viet Nam	Hanoi, Viet Nam	16–17 October
Regional (Asia and the Pacific) conference on organic agriculture	Bangkok, Thailand	12–15 December
Commodities		
Conference on global initiative in commodities	Brasilia, Brazil	7–11 May
Eleventh African oil and gas, trade and finance conference	Nairobi, Kenya	23–25 May
Second annual meeting of the intergovernmental forum on mining, minerals metals and sustainable development	Geneva, Switzerland	16–19 September
Brainstorming meeting on commodities	Geneva, Switzerland	27–28 September
Round table on a sustainable world cocoa economy	Accra, Ghana	3–6 October
Dialogue on tropical products, trade, natural resource management and poverty	Salvador (Bahia), Brazil	3–5 December
Management of mining revenues and economic diversification opportunities	Lima, Peru	10–11 December

Competition law and policy		
Regional competition meetings	Cotonou, Benin	26–27 March
Peer review of WAEMU	Geneva, Switzerland	1 – 19 July
Trade logistics		
Trade and transport facilitation workshop for policymakers	Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic	15–16 February
Workshop on transit issues, needs and capacities, and WTO negotiations on trade facilitation for representatives of LLDCs	Geneva, Switzerland	8 March
National trade facilitation workshop	Montevideo, Uruguay	20–21 March
Workshop on multimodal transport for the ECO region	Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran	25–29 June
Trade and transport facilitation workshop for policymakers	Savannakhet, Lao People's Democratic Republic	3–5 July
Workshop on transit issues, needs and capacities, and WTO negotiations on trade facilitation for representatives of the African Group	Geneva, Switzerland	19 July
STRATSHIP course	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	2–7 November
ICT and e-business development		
Joint ECA-ITU-UNCTAD Regional Workshop on Information Society Measurements in Africa	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	7-9 March
Joint ESCWA-UNCTAD-OECD-ITU/ARO Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Information Society Measurements: Household and Business Surveys	Cairo, Egypt	20-21 June
Regional workshop on the legal aspects of e-commerce	Montevideo, Uruguay	1–5 October
Development impact of free and open source software: regional case studies	New York, United States of America	16 October
Training course in the production of statistics for the information economy	Bogotá, Colombia	9–16 December
New technologies and capacity building		
Port training programme	Sihanoukville, Cambodia	January–December
Port training programme	Conakry, Guinea	January–December
Port training programme	Dakar, Senegal	January–December
Séminaire de formation de formateurs portuaires	Marseille, France	15–31 January
Awareness raising on WTO accession	Banteay Meancheay, Cambodia	30 January
Awareness raising on WTO accession	Battambang, Cambodia	1 February
Investment promotion workshop	Xayabouly Province, Lao People's Democratic Republic	6–8 February
Basic course on foreign investment	Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic	26 February –1 March
Investment promotion workshop	Oudomxay Province, Lao People's Democratic Republic	12–14 March
Workshop on ICT and tourism	Kota-Kinabalu, Malaysia	12–15 March
Port training programme	Lomé, Togo	March 2006–April 2007
Port training programme	Cotonou, Benin	March 2006–April 2007

Formation de tuteurs techniques pour la diffusion à distance en Afrique de l'Ouest	Dakar, Senegal	24–27 April
TrainForTrade distance learning tutoring	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	28 April–20 May
Port training programme	Douala, Cameroon	May–December
Taller de tutores	Montevideo, Uruguay	8–10 May
Distance learning course on sustainable tourism	Geneva, Switzerland	14–25 May
Sustainable tourism for development	Antsirabe, Madagascar	4–8 June
Round table on competition law	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	13 June
Regional training of trainers seminar	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	18 June– 29 June
International coordination meeting of UNCTAD port training programme for English-speaking port communities of developing countries	Dublin, Ireland	25–26 June
Distance learning course on the legal aspects of e-commerce	Geneva, Switzerland	6–31 August
Regional training on distance learning	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	24–28 September
Regional training on the production of pedagogical videos	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	1–2 October
Regional distance learning course on sustainable tourism for development	Geneva, Switzerland	6–15 November
E-tourism and ICT	Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic	13–15 November
Virtual Institute–ALDC–DITC workshop on the teaching and research of trade and poverty	Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania	19–23 November
Regional workshop on sustainable tourism for development	Geneva, Switzerland	21–22 November
Investment promotion workshop	Pakse, Lao People's Democratic Republic	27–29 November

Annex D. Supporting capacity-building in 2007

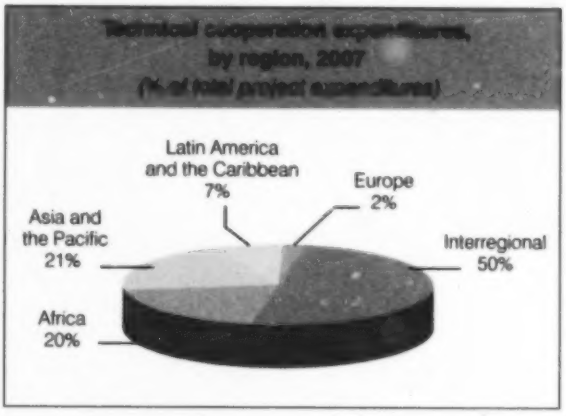
In 2007, UNCTAD implemented some 260 projects in more than 100 countries, with annual expenditures of just over $34 million, a decrease of 3 per cent over 2006. These included interregional, regional and country-specific projects.

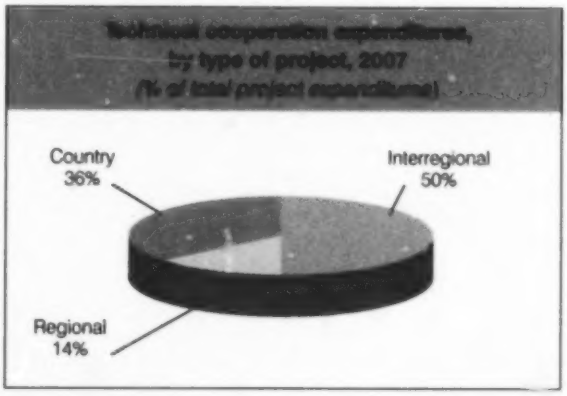
UNCTAD has embarked upon a process to consolidate and rationalize its numerous project-based trust funds, which currently number close to 300. The interregional and regional trust funds will be gradually consolidated into 17 thematic trust funds, corresponding to UNCTAD's main areas of work. Once established, these thematic trust funds would provide a more coherent structure to UNCTAD assistance, thereby enhancing the effectiveness and delivery of UNCTAD's technical cooperation programmes. To this end, the process of consultations with member States began in December 2007.

During 2007, UNCTAD also participated actively in the "Delivering as One" initiative, which aims to consolidate assistance programmes provided by various United Nations agencies at the country level. In close collaboration with its partner agencies in the UN-CEB Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity – including the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Regional Commissions – UNCTAD has worked with interested Governments and United Nations Country Teams to integrate its assistance into the national programming processes. This is expected to materialize in four countries – Cape Verde, Mozambique, Rwanda and Viet Nam – in early 2008, among the eight pilot countries of this initiative.

Voluntary contributions to UNCTAD technical cooperation trust funds (member States, public donations and financing from United Nations organizations) 2007* (thousands of dollars)

Norway	5 880
Spain	**3 489**
United States of America	1 993
United Kingdom	**1 693**
Sweden	1 652
Switzerland	**1 464**
France	1 198
Netherlands	**962**
Finland	618
Germany	**579**
Italy	526
Canada	**385**
Ireland	383
Luxembourg	**164**
Other developed countries	287
European Commission	**5 330**
Developing countries and economies in transition[a]	7 660
International organizations financing	**4 743**
Contributions from other sources	678
TOTAL	**36 804**


Technical cooperation expenditures, by region, 2007
(% of total project expenditures)
Latin America and the Caribbean 7%
Europe 2%
Asia and the Pacific 21%
Interregional 50%
Africa 20%



* Preliminary figures as of 31 December 2007.

[a] This represents mainly funding for UNCTAD technical cooperation activities in their own countries, including those financed by other development assistance source.

Annex E. Selected UNCTAD technical cooperation programmes by region

Annex F. Objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement for the 2006–2007 biennium

Subprogramme/ objective	Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement	Performance measure	Actual performance in 2006	Actual performance in 2007	Above, as or below target
Executive direction and management To enable UNCTAD to be of further service to its member States and to ensure full implementation of the legislative mandates provided	a. Increased recognition by member States of the relevance of UNCTAD work	a. Number of member States represented at the annual sessions of the Trade and Development Board	120 countries	122 countries	108 countries	Below target
	b. Mandates are effectively implemented	b. Full implementation of recommendations arising from evaluations endorsed by UNCTAD intergovernmental bodies within established deadlines	100 per cent implementation	100 per cent implementation	94.5 per cent implementation	Below target
	c. Improvement in the mainstreaming of gender perspective in the work of UNCTAD	c. Increased number of initiatives and cooperation activities incorporating a gender perspective	10 initiatives*	6 initiatives	4 initiatives	On target
	d. Programme of work is effectively managed and supported by staff and financial resources	d. (i) Timely recruitment and placement of staff	Average of 140 days during which a post remains vacant	Average of 195 days during which a post remains vacant	Average of 154 days during which a post remains vacant (vacancies opened and closed in 2007)	Below target
		(ii) Full and effective utilization of resources	99 per cent expenditure compared to funds available	72.1 per cent expenditure compared to funds available	99.1 per cent expenditure compared to funds available	On target
Subprogramme 1A – Globalization, interdependence and development To promote economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels that are supportive of sustained growth and poverty reduction in developing countries, based on faster capital accumulation and increased gains from globalization, against	a. Better understanding of policy choices at the national and international levels and their implications for faster and more stable growth and poverty reduction in developing countries as a result of policy advocacy	a. Number of endorsements of policy recommendations and acknowledgement of research findings by member States	26 endorsements/ acknowledgements*	30 endorsements/ acknowledgements	18 endorsements/ acknowledgements	Above target
	b. Progress towards solving the debt problems of developing countries through better debt management and, as appropriate, debt relief	b. (i) Number of institutions using the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System	100 institutions	99 institutions	99 institutions	On target

* *Performance target for the biennium*

the background of increasing interdependence between the international trading and financial systems and national development strategies and the need for their coherence		(ii) Increased number of countries having improved external debt positions or having gained international commitments to that end	19 countries*	13 countries	20 countries	Above target
	c. Improved empirical and statistical foundations and informational base for decision-making at the national and international levels on trade, financial and economic policies and development strategies	c. Number of requests from outside users for statistical publications and informational materials in both electronic and hard-copy format	25,000 requests	25,000 requests	Figures not available at time of publishing	
	d. Improved policy and institutional environment and enhanced international cooperation in the development of the Palestinian economy by strengthening UNCTAD activities in this field through the provision of adequate resources	d. Number of policy and legislative measures and international cooperation initiatives taken	10 measures/ initiatives*	5 measures/ initiatives	11 measures/ initiatives	Above target
Subprogramme 18 – Development of Africa To promote African economic development and fuller participation and successful integration of African countries into the world economy	a. Increase in the range of national and international policy choices to promote African development in the areas of expertise of UNCTAD	a. Increased number of endorsements by African States of policy recommendations	30 endorsements in articles and interviews	113 endorsements in articles and interviews	135 endorsements in articles and interviews	Above target
	b. Increased utilization of services provided in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and various intergovernmental and inter-agency initiatives with regard to Africa	b. Increased number of requests for assistance in support of the New Partnership and other such initiatives	6 requests for assistance*	7 requests for assistance	9 requests for assistance	Above target

* *Performance target for the biennium*

Subprogramme 2 – Investment, enterprise and technology To assure developmental gains from increased international investment flows and technology transfer to developing countries and countries with economies in transition and from enhanced international competitiveness of domestic enterprises in those countries	a. Increased ability at the national level to discuss international investment issues and their development dimension	a. Number of policymakers and other stakeholders who indicate that they are better able to discuss international investment-related issues	160 communications expressing usefulness of the subprogramme's publications*	85 communications expressing usefulness of the subprogramme	93 communications expressing usefulness of the subprogramme	Above target
	b. Better understanding of policies that will attract and benefit from foreign direct investment and technology transfer and the development dimension of international agreements	b. Number of policy recommendations taken into account by Member States	25 policy recommendations taken into account	30 policy recommendations taken into account	37 policy recommendations taken into account	Above target
	c. Improved opportunities for enterprises in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to enhance their competitiveness through deepened linkages between domestic and foreign firms and better understanding of emerging issues in accounting and reporting standards, corporate responsibility, transparency and good corporate practices	c. Percentage of countries indicating that policy advice and technical assistance provided by UNCTAD were useful in the design of policies aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of their enterprises	70 per cent of countries	71 per cent of countries	70 per cent of countries	On target
Subprogramme 3 – International trade To assure developmental gains from international trade, the trading system and trade negotiations in goods and services and to enhance the commodity sector's contribution to the development process for the effective and beneficial integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the global economy	a. Improved understanding and better ability of developing countries to analyse, formulate and implement appropriate trade policies and strategies in international trade, the international trading system and trade negotiations, and improved capacity to meet the challenges of market access and entry conditions for developing countries' exports	a. (i) Increased participation of developing countries in world trade and the international trading system.	70 per cent of proposals to WTO Ministerial Conference are made by developing countries	69 per cent of proposals to WTO Ministerial Conference are made by developing countries	71 per cent of proposals to WTO Ministerial Conference are made by developing countries	Above target

* *Performance target for the biennium*

	i	(ii) The number of policy recommendations taken into account by member States	15 recommendations	10 recommendations	30 recommendations	Above target
	b. Strengthened analytical, statistical and information base for trade and trade-related decision-making at the national, regional and international levels	b.Increased number of registered and subscribing users of the Trade Analysis and Information Analysis System, the World Integrated Trade Solution and the Agriculture Trade Policy Simulation Model	35,000 users and/or trained national personnel	35,000 users and/or trained national personnel	70,000 users and/or trained national personnel	Above target
	c. Strengthened capacity of developing countries to integrate commodity production and trade into development	c. Number of countries in which substantive progress is made in the contribution of the commodities sector to development	20 countries	12 countries	20 countries	On target
	d. Improved capability of developing countries to identify and address competition and consumer protection issues and to deal effectively with restrictive business practices	d. Number of countries making progress in competition or consumer-protection legislation, specifically through the preparation, adoption or revision of legal instruments or through measures aimed at enforcing their implementation	11 countries	5 countries	14 countries	Above target
	e. Strengthened capacity of developing countries to pursue both trade and trade policy objectives and sustainable development objectives in a mutually supportive fashion in the context of the international trading system	e. Number of actions taken by developing countries to reconcile trade policy with sustainable development objectives in international discussions and negotiations or through specific policy measures at the national, regional and international levels	90 actions	50 actions	90 actions	On target

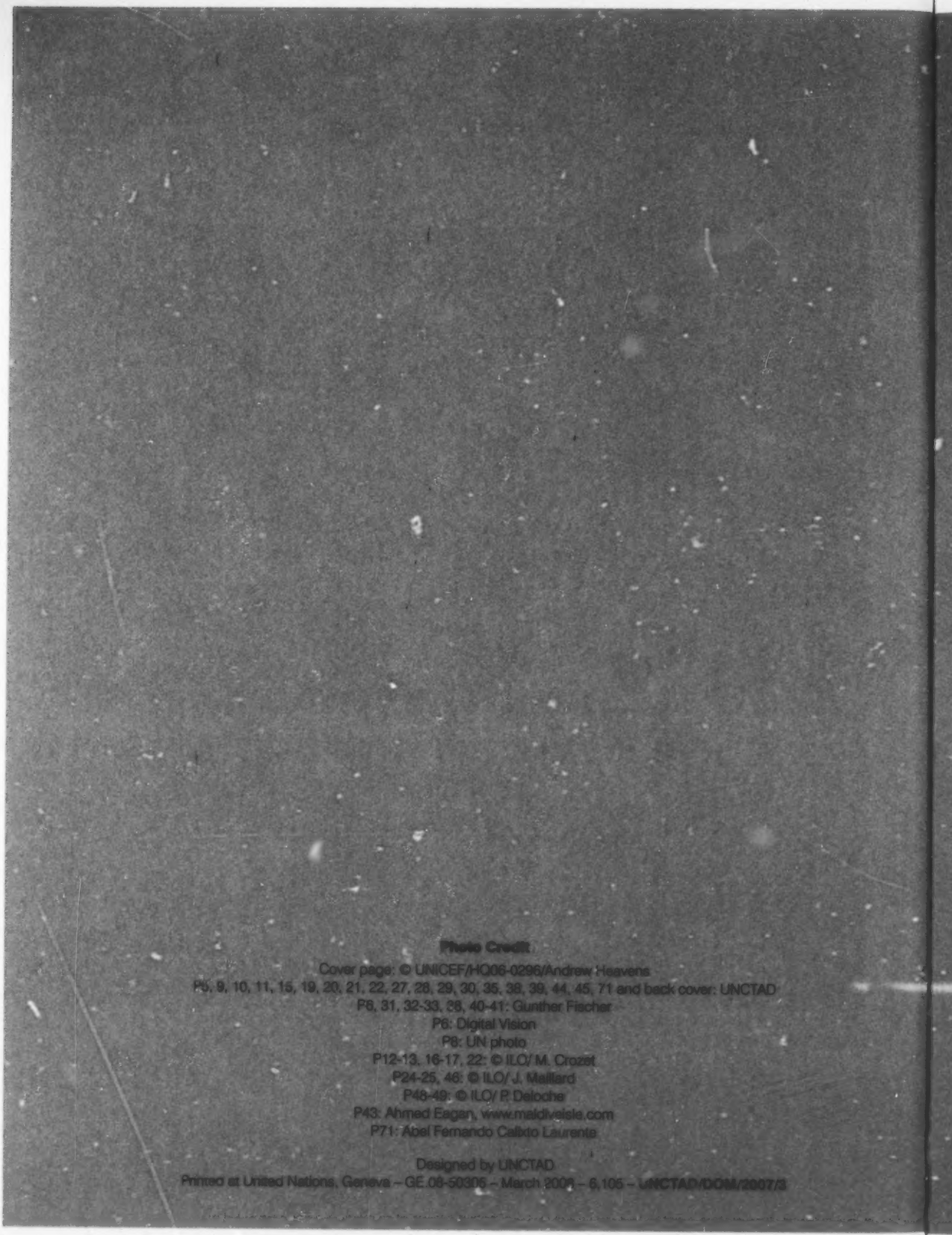
Subprogramme 4 – Services infrastructure for development, trade efficiency and human resources development To improve the competitiveness in international trade of developing countries and countries with economies in transition through efficient and secure trade-supporting services, better and increased utilization of information technology and development of training capacity	a. Improved trade logistics of developing countries through, among other things, strengthening of transport efficiency, trade facilitation and customs and legal frameworks	a. Increased number of specific actions taken by developing countries to improve transport efficiency and trade facilitation	20 actions	10 actions	23 actions	Above target
	b. Improved awareness and understanding by developing countries of the policy and strategy options of the economic applications of information and communication technologies	b. Increased number of specific actions taken by developing countries to address economic implications of information and communication technologies	28 actions	10 actions	29 actions	Above target
	c. Strengthened human resources development capacity in developing countries in the fields of trade, investment and trade-supporting services	c. Percentage of trained trainers having successfully delivered training	70 per cent	25 per cent	70 per cent	On target
Subprogramme 5 – Special needs of least developed countries, small island developing States and land-locked developing countries, and the related special problems and challenges faced by transit developing countries	a. Increased analytical understanding and consensus in the global economy of the development problems of least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, and the related special problems and challenges faced by transit developing countries, as well as structurally weak and small, vulnerable economies	a. Increased number of policy actions agreed and recommended by least developed countries and their development partners	7 policy actions	5 policy actions (estimate)	16 policy actions	Above target

To promote progressive and beneficial integration into the global economy of least developed countries and facilitate their smooth graduation and to respond to the special needs of small, vulnerable economies, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries, in accordance with the Almaty Programme of Action	b. Better integration of trade policies and priorities in the national development plans of least developed countries through the implementation of the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries	b. Number of countries making efforts to mainstream their trade policies and priorities into their national development plans	10 countries	8 countries (estimate)	10 countries	On target
	c. Increased analytical understanding of the problems of the least developed countries, and research and policy analysis in support of them, including through the annual publication of The Least Developed Countries Report	c. Timeliness, quality and relevance of the analytical work undertaken, including with respect to the annual Least Developed Countries Report, as indicated by the number of endorsements of policy recommendations and acknowledgement of research findings by the least developed countries	60 statements	40 statements (estimate)	60 statements	On target
	d. Enhanced international cooperation to improve transit transport for the trade of landlocked developing countries, within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries	d. Number of landlocked developing countries making progress in the improvement of their transit-transport agreements within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries, and other trade facilitation measures	21 countries	The transit transport situation for many of the 31 landlocked developing countries has become more complicated in the recent past, limiting progress on this front; for example, the deterioration of physical trade-related transport infrastructure in general due to a shortage of maintenance funds, continued political instability affecting landlocked developing countries, and the non-implementation and/or arbitrary interpretation of transit agreements, have contributed to this situation	The final value could not be specified as the situation has not improved	Below target
	e. Contribution to the follow-up to the international meeting on the sustainable development of small island developing States in 2005	e. Timely completion of inputs to this follow-up	100 per cent of inputs completed	75 per cent of inputs (estimate)	100 per cent of inputs	On target

United Nations-UNCTAD-MRE third regional training course for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima, Peru

International coordination meeting, UNCTAD Port Training Programme, Dublin, Ireland

Foreign direct investment/transnational corporations statistics workshop, Lusaka, Zambia



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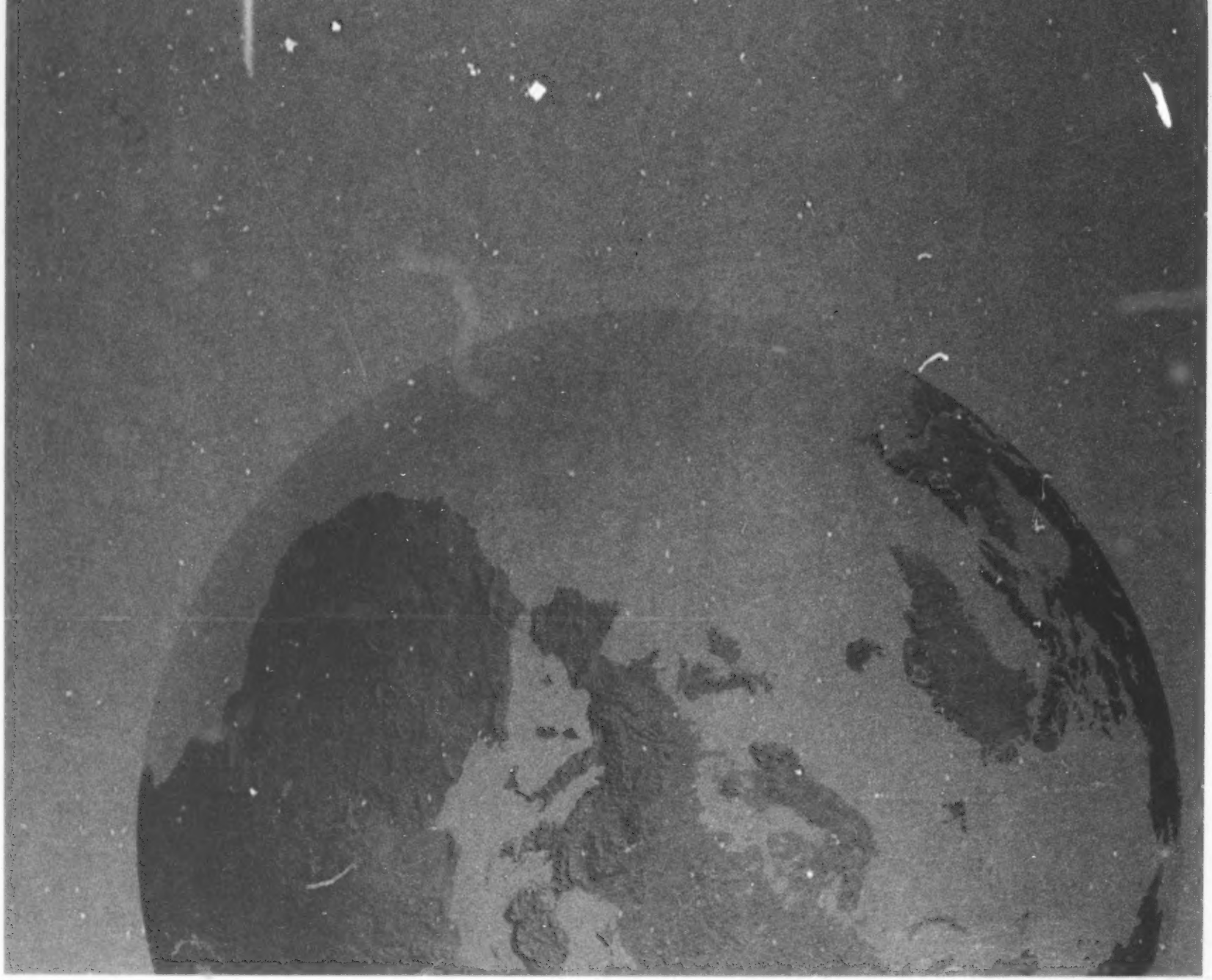

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